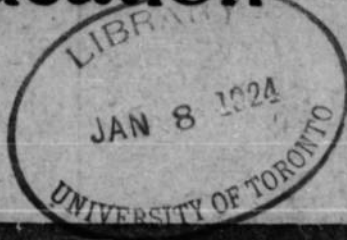


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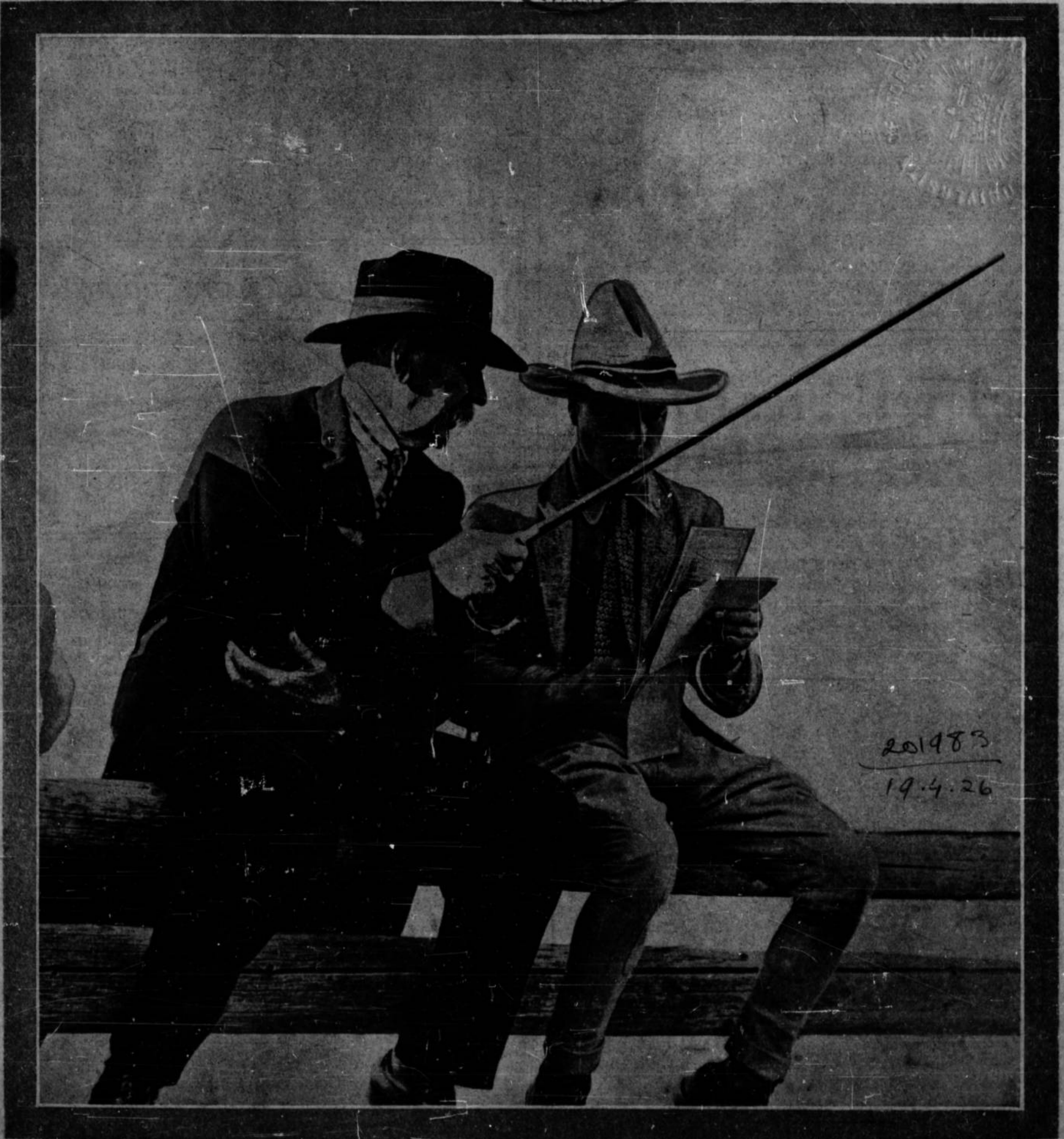
# THE GRAIN GROWERS' GUIDE

Organization · Education · Co-operation

Winnipeg, Man.



January 2, 1924



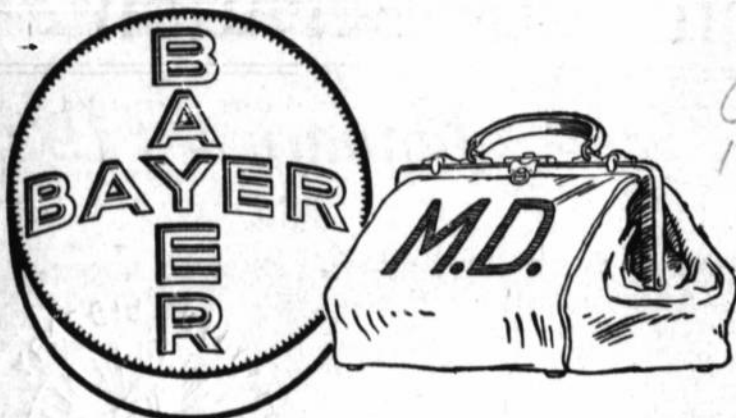
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Dominion Forest Nursery Station, Indian Head, Sask.

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## How Much Has Germany Paid?

By J. M. Keynes, in the London Nation and Athenaeum

WITH the German government's formal announcement of its bankruptcy and the total cessation of all payments, including deliveries in kind, the first phase of reparations, during which Germany has continuously paid large sums—probably up to the full limit of her capacity—has come to an end. It may be that no more will ever be paid. This is, therefore, an appropriate moment for reviewing and estimating her past performance.

The mind of the public has been extremely confused by the variety of estimates which have been current, varying from German official claims that she has already paid more than £2,000,000,000 to press headlines that she has paid nothing at all.

Apart from differences of opinion as to the estimation of particular items, there are two sets of figures which have to be distinguished—namely, the total financial burden thrown on Germany by the Peace Treaty, and the portion of this which reckons, under the terms of the treaty, towards the discharge of reparations. Certain sacrifices imposed on Germany are excluded altogether from the items reckoning towards reparations, although they cost Germany just as dear as the items which are not excluded; whilst the method prescribed by the treaty for calculating, for the purposes of the reparation account, the value of certain other items, undoubtedly yields a lower figure than

calculated at the world market price instead of by the formula prescribed by the treaty, it is estimated that an additional £70,000,000 (or thereabouts) would have been credited. There are also several other important items, in which there is a wide difference between the value placed on them by the German government, and that assessed by the Reparation Commission, as follows:

	German Valuation £	Reparation Commission Valuation £
Saar mines ....	50,000,000	20,000,000
Mercantile marine .....	290,000,000	35,000,000
Ceded state property (not including Upper Silesia) .....	275,000,000	127,000,000
Armistice deliveries .....	175,000,000	59,000,000
Total .....	\$790,000,000	£241,000,000

Thus the German valuation is more than three times that of the Reparation Commission. A part of this discrepancy can be explained, without imputing bad faith to either party, by a difference in the principles of valuation adopted. The German government naturally considers what the property is worth to them and the Reparation Commission equally what it is worth to them—which may be

## Dates of Conventions

### UNITED FARMERS OF MANITOBA

St. Stephen's Church, Winnipeg

January 8, 9, 10, 11

### UNITED FARMERS OF ALBERTA

G.W.V. Memorial Hall, Edmonton

January 15, 16, 17, 18

### SASKATCHEWAN GRAIN GROWERS' ASSOCIATION

St. Andrew's Church, Moose Jaw

January 23, 24, 25

their real cost to Germany. Thus the cost to Germany of what she has paid and delivered is much greater than the sum credited to her in the books of the reparation commission.

Now, if we are considering what progress Germany has made towards meeting her treaty liabilities, the latter figure alone is relevant. But if we are seeking a measure of Germany's effort to carry her burdens or of the punishment imposed on her, it is the former figure which matters.

Let us begin with the sums credited to her in the books of the Reparation Commission, which are indisputable, and represent the lowest estimate of her effort on any computation. These fall into three categories:

	£ (gold)
Cash .....	95,000,000
Deliveries in kind .....	189,000,000
State property in ceded territories .....	127,000,000
	£411,000,000

Of these sums £19,600,000 was returned to Germany in the form of coal advances (under the Spa agreement). On the other hand, currency, worth about £35,000,000, and goods and services, worth at least a further £35,000,000, have been furnished to the armies of occupation and commissions of control. Further, the Reparation Commission has still to estimate and credit the value of state property in the ceded area of Upper Silesia, estimated by Germany, I think, at about £50,000,000. If we adjust for these various items, the total sum is £511,000,000.

Let us allow, next, for items reckoned in the reparation account below their real value. The largest and most indisputable of these is coal and coke. If the value of these deliveries had been

the difference between a going concern and bankrupt stock. It might be quite consistent with the terms of the treaty to value some of the most essential parts of Germany's industrial equipment as scrap-iron; but this would not be a correct measure of the burden thrown on Germany. Indeed, its tendency to impoverish whatever it touches and to convert organized equipment into rubbish is one of the characteristics—we can almost say one of the objects—of the Treaty of Versailles. Two items, however, since they relate to known and definite objects, are particularly striking—the Saar mines and the mercantile marine. The difference between the valuation per ton of output placed by the Reparation Commission on the Saar mines and that claimed by France for the destruction of her own mines, and the difference between the valuation per shipping ton placed on the German mercantile marine and that claimed for the destruction of allied shipping, are so wide as to seem obnoxious to justice. It should be added that the discrepancy in the shipping valuation partly depends on whether the boom values current at the date of delivery are taken or the slump values current at the date of valuation. It is instructive, because it well illustrates the outrageous character of the reparation business, to note that the valuation placed on the whole of the German mercantile marine is sufficient to pay the interest on Germany's reparation liability, as assessed by the same authority, for a period of less than six weeks, while the surrender of the Saar mines pays the perpetually accruing interest bill for less than one month.

Since the German valuation has been built up item by item and offered for criticism and cross-examination, we

Continued on Page 16



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## THE GRAIN GROWERS' GUIDE

"Equal Rights to All and Special Privileges to None"  
A Weekly Journal for Progressive Farmers

The Guide is absolutely owned and controlled by the organized farmers—entirely independent, and not one dollar of political, capitalistic or special interest money is invested in it.

GEORGE F. CHIPMAN  
Editor and Manager

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J. T. HULL  
Associate Editor

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## East versus West

Hon. J. B. M. Baxter, in Maritime By-Elections, Says Maritime Interests Sacrificed to Please Western Grain Growers

ON December 3, two days before the by-election in Halifax, the Hon. J. B. M. Baxter, member of parliament for St. John, was the principal speaker at a Conservative meeting in Halifax. The keynote of Mr. Baxter's speech, as reported in the Halifax Herald, of December 4, was that the King government "have deliberately, wilfully and knowingly sacrificed the opportunities of the maritime provinces in order to carry through the bargain for political support from the provinces of the middle West."

Mr. Baxter opened his speech with a reference to Premier King's declarations regarding the proceedings of the Imperial Conference, and he stated that Premier King, who had denounced Mr. Meighen for reticence with regard to proceedings of the conference was now himself just as reticent.

He then referred to trade conditions and contended that if trade was increasing in other parts of Canada it was lessening in the maritime provinces. Sir Richard Cartwright, he said, had referred to the maritime provinces as the "shreds and patches and ragged remnants of confederation." The maritime provinces, he asserted, were receiving today from the King government just such treatment as that indicated in Sir Richard Cartwright's scornful words. Sir Wilfred Laurier, he said, had given a pledge that every pound of Canadian freight should pass over Canadian railways and through Canadian ports. In Halifax they had a grain elevator with a capacity of 12,000,000 bushels, which was standing "silent and empty." Grain traffic was flowing through American ports which should, in the words of Sir Wilfred Laurier, be "forced through Canadian ports." This grain was going through American ports because of cheaper freight rates. They had been promised a reduction in freight rates for the maritime provinces but had not got it. Mr. Baxter continued as follows:

## Crows Nest Pass Agreement

"What do you suppose has prevented freight rates from being reduced? Nothing in the world but a political bargain between the government of the day and the Progressive party. We used to hear loud denunciation of the freight rates by Mr. Macdonald and other members from the maritime provinces supporting the government. The day came when they could have brought about substantial reductions of those freight rates. That day came in the session of 1922, when a special commission was appointed to enquire whether special privileges which the western grain growers had enjoyed under the Crow's Nest Pass agreement, should be re-established or not. This agreement was made between the government of Canada, when Hon. A. G. Blair was minister of railways, and the Canadian Pacific Railway. It was desired to have a line built through the Crow's Nest Pass to open up an important section of the country in which there was little or no cultivation. The C.P.R. would not construct the road without special financial assistance from

the government; and in granting that assistance, Hon. Mr. Blair imposed the condition that on a certain list of articles, including grain, the rates of transportation should never exceed a scheduled rate set forth in the agreement. The western provinces paid nothing for this, the grain growers paid nothing for it, neither they nor the western provinces were even parties to the agreement. The only parties were the people of all Canada on the one hand and the C.P.R. on the other.

"The railway company built the road; population flowed into the territory; and after some years the traffic grew to such large proportions that the C.P.R. itself voluntarily reduced the rates below those specified in the agreement."

"This went on for years and nobody ever heard anything about the Crow's Nest Pass agreement. Then the war came, costs of labor and material shot up tremendously. It became impossible to transport commodities profitably at the voluntary rates of the railway or at those established by the Crow's Nest Pass agreement. Parliament intervened and suspended the Crow's Nest Pass agreement rates."

## The Political Bargain

"Then during the session of 1922," Mr. Baxter explained, "it was clear that costs of transportation had considerably declined and that considerable relief could be given in respect of all classes of commodities carried by the railways. We felt that in the maritime provinces we had a right to share in this relief. You had sixteen solid members who were supposed to be looking out for your rights and for the opportunity to make your traffic conditions better. Hon. Mr. Macdonald was a member of the committee appointed to consider the whole question of railway rates in connection with the Crow's Nest Pass agreement. That committee sat for

weeks and at last drew up a report recommending a general lowering of rates. Then suddenly the conclusions of the report were changed, though the reasons for the former conclusions were left standing. The committee changed its recommendation—and instead of giving the maritime provinces and the rest of Canada the benefit of such reductions as could be made, it gave practically the whole benefits to the western grain growers. They kept their Crow's Nest Pass rates on wheat and flour; and the maritime provinces got nothing so far as the committee was concerned.

"Hon. Mr. Macdonald helped to pilot that report through the House of Commons. Why? Because the premier, who spoke so long the other night and said so little, had made a political bargain with Mr. Crerar, the head of the grain growers and the leader of the Progressive party, for political support from members of that party in consideration of the restoration of the Crow's Nest Pass rates on wheat and flour. The lowering of these rates meant a loss to the railways of the country of \$17,000,000. That reduction of rates, we contend, should have been distributed fairly over all basic commodities and over all sections of the country, instead of being confined to two articles, to one section of the country and to the benefit of one political party."

"Now you know why your 12,000,000-bushel elevator has stood idle, and now you see the futility of building another unless you are given the benefit of rates which your representatives should have demanded for you and should have obtained as the price of their political allegiance."

In conclusion Mr. Baxter asked the electors to register disapproval in their votes of this political bargain, which in their interests should never have been made.

## "Not Real Farmers"

On December 17, Mr. Baxter was also the principal speaker at a meeting at Buctouche, held in the interests of Alexandre Doucet, Conservative candidate in the by-election of Kent, N.B. In the course of his speech at that meeting

Mr. Baxter, as reported in the Montreal Gazette, said:

"While our best blood is leaving us Liberal members from the maritime provinces sit supinely by in parliament, and vote to sacrifice the interests of the old provinces who made Confederation, for the sake of a band of grain growers, not real farmers. They raise grain, a small percentage of which is needed in Canada, and the rest sold in the markets of the world, and they care not how it leaves our country. Some of their members have had the insolence to say in parliament that they don't care whether their grain goes out of Canadian ports or not. That may be very well from a purely commercial point of view, but if that principle were to be carried out in other things, the Confederation would crumble. Confederation will not crumble. We are not secessionists, but we want justice and fair play, and a square deal for the East, as well as for the West, and there is a band of us in the maritime provinces that is determined to have a fair deal, and not have our rights sacrificed for men who are not satisfied with an honest deal."

## Alberta's Liquor Bill

A statement covering the general lines of the new liquor bill to be submitted by the government, has been issued by Premier Greenfield. The statement is as follows:

The liquor bill which the government will, as a result of the plebiscite of November 5, submit for the consideration of the legislature, will in its general principles follow the recommendation of the Moderation League, but with some modification. It will provide for:

1. The establishment of a board to be known as the Alberta liquor control board, with a maximum of three members, one to be the chairman who will be vested with very wide powers in the administration of the act.

2. The sale of wines and spirits in sealed packages on permits at such places as the board may designate in quantities limited by regulations of the board, all wines and spirits to be sold only by the board through properly appointed vendors for consumption in private residences only.

3. Permits to be issued by board and all liquors including beer to be sold only to holders of permits. Full powers of cancellation to be granted to the board without appeal.

4. Beer to be sold in sealed packages for consumption in residences to holders of permits; detail of such sale and delivery to residents to be regulated by order of board.

5. The sale of beer by bottle or glass for consumption on the premises limited to premises specially licensed for that purpose, such premises consisting of a room conforming to strict regulations of the board. No such licenses to be granted to restaurants nor to dining-rooms of hotels.

Wide powers will be given the board in granting and cancelling such licenses.

6. Local option: The location of vendors' stores and the granting of licenses to premises for the sale of beer for consumption on the premises as per clause 5 to be subject to certain local option provisions.

7. Clubs. Bona fide clubs as defined by the act will be permitted to sell beer to members subject to regulation by the board.

## Apples, Plums and Cherries

Last year The Guide distributed among its readers a large quantity of apple trees, plum trees, cherry trees, strawberries and raspberry plants and flowers, all of varieties hardy on the prairies. So well was the service received and appreciated, that The Guide has decided to make another distribution next spring. Great interest in fruit growing is being taken all over the country since it has become realized that we can grow a large portion of our own fruit requirements on the prairie farms. The Guide nursery stock was produced in this country. It is hardy. It



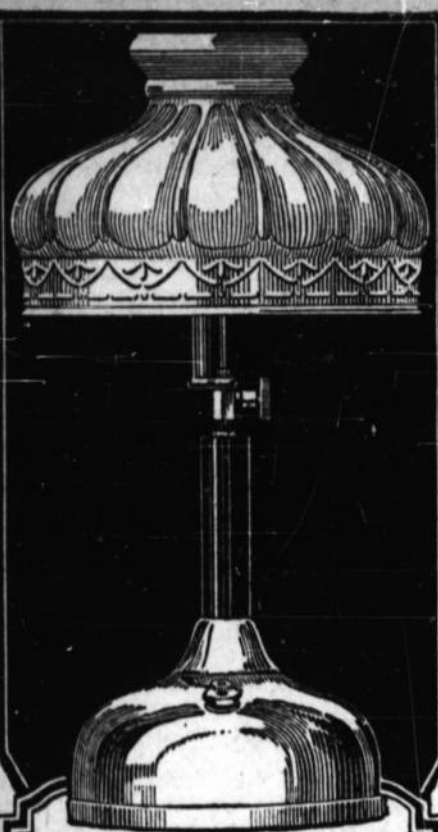
Prairie Cherries

will grow. It will produce fruit in abundance.

Descriptive catalog with prices lower than offered elsewhere has been prepared and will be mailed upon request. There is but a limited quantity of this nursery stock. We know that it will not begin to supply the demand, but we shall accept orders as they are received until the supply is exhausted. If you want fruit in your garden at the lowest possible cost, send your name and address and get a copy of our fruit catalog.

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# The Pool Method of Selling Cattle

From the Address of C. Rice-Jones, General Manager U.G.G., at the Western Livestock Union Convention

**C**OMPARATIVELY few cattle owners run large enough bunches of cattle to ship in straight car loads to market; that is, a car load of straight beef steers of any particular type; straight cows, heifers, stockers or feeders, as the case may be. The bulk of the cattle of necessity come to market in mixed car lots, with each car lot containing from two or three to as many as 20 different classes of cattle in the one car. Under the commission system of selling, the commission firm handling the cattle does not in the strict sense of the word completely control the cattle. That is to say, they are not in a position to sort these cattle and put them into the shape in which they will bring the best price on the market.

The result has been that this service has been performed by dealers and speculators who have made a special business of this part of the preparation of cattle for market. The preparation of the product for market in salable form is surely no less important in the case of cattle than of any other product. This brings up the question as to what is the most salable form in which to offer cattle for sale. It is undoubtedly in sorted car lots. No single buyer is on the market for every class of cattle offered for sale. There are always a certain number of buyers on the market for one or two particular classes of cattle. These buyers naturally prefer to buy at one purchase a car lot of the particular class of cattle which they require. They see the complete car load in one pen and know exactly what the car load will cost them, whereas picking them up in small lots or even ones or twos, they do not know the cost until the last animal is purchased, or what the appearance of the animals when collected will be.

The appearance of cattle is greatly improved by being shown in sorted lots and there is surely an advantage in offering cattle for sale in the manner in which they are most pleasing to the eye, the same as any other class of product. An Eastern packer may be short of a particular class of cows, heifers or steers, as the case may be, and be willing to pay a premium over the market price in order to make sure of his requirements of this particular class of cattle.

## Saves Number of Transactions

In the past practically the whole stocker and feeder business has been handled through the dealers and speculators on the yards, the commission firms receiving orders having to go down to their alleys and in many cases re-purchase some of the cattle which they had sold the dealer the same day on a commission basis. Special orders are received from local feeders as well as feeders from Ontario and the United States for loads of feeders, many of them required for show purposes. The pool with its large volume can generally fill these orders without any difficulty. The bulk of these orders could not be filled by a commission firm without the cattle passing through the hands of another dealer. I do not believe any one will dispute the fact that a day's run of cattle on the stock yards will sell for more money if offered for sale in sorted car loads than they will if sold as they arrive, either in mixed lots or in one's, two's or three's, as the case may be.

## Mode of Operation

For the benefit of those who have not witnessed cattle going through the pool, a brief description may be of interest. The appraiser, who must of necessity be a first-class cattle man, thoroughly familiar with the markets, stands in front of the scale. A car load of cattle is taken from the feed alley to the approach pens at the scale. Here it is roughly sorted as to class. The appraiser and his assistant separate one or more animals, depending on whether there are several of the same class and quality belonging to the same owner. The appraiser then decides what the

animal or animals are worth on the market at that time. They then pass on to the scale. The weighman already has the point of shipment of the particular car load that is being weighed. The appraiser's assistant handling the gate going on to the scale calls the ownership, mark price and pen number in which the animal is to be penned after leaving the scale. For instance—"One steer; four cents; \$75; mark, one on right hip."

Where it happens that there are two or three or more animals of the same class and quality belonging to the same owner in the same car these naturally are put on the scale together. From six to eight hundred cattle can be put over in a day by one appraiser. Each class of cattle is designated for a certain pen number so that when the appraising of the day's run is completed, the cattle are roughly sorted into their different classes. There are 24 different grades or classifications of cattle under our pool system; in other words, there are 24 different pen numbers to which cattle are sent after leaving the scale.

## Now Paying Full Appraisal

Operations were first started on February 15 last on the St. Boniface market, the pool operating on a weekly pool basis, an advance of 70 per cent. of the appraisal value being made. A separate export pool was operated. After a few weeks' operation it became apparent that there were some undesirable features from the standpoint of operating on a weekly basis, and on July 1, operations were changed to a yearly basis with the advance of the full appraisal value of the cattle.

On this basis the shipper receives the full market value of the cattle and will participate in any surplus there may be at the end of 12 months. The shipper retains his account sales as what might be termed a participation certificate and should there be any profits available for distribution, the distribution will be made on a percentage basis, based on the value of the cattle. The cattle are handled by the commission department as usual up to the time they pass over the scale. For this the commission department is paid the usual commission per car, this expense including the appraising of the cattle. After the cattle pass over the scale, all expenses are borne by the pool. On the yearly basis only the one pool is operated. That is to say, the export business is merely part of the one pool.

The experience of ten months' operation has increased our confidence in the benefits to be gained from the producer's standpoint in marketing cattle under this system. We do not wish to be interpreted as knocking the commission system. The commission system is all right as far as it goes, but from the standpoint of the producer does not go far enough. It stops at the primary market and does not provide an adequate marketing service for the 75 per cent. of our cattle that are not slaughtered locally. One essential for the most successful operation of the pool is volume; in fact the degree of success of marketing under this system is largely governed by the volume of cattle handled by the pool.

## Straight Loads

The question may be raised as to what service the pool can give in the marketing of straight car lots of cattle; that is to say, cattle shipped from large herds where there is a sufficient uniformity in the cattle and sufficient numbers to ship straight loads of steers, cows or heifers, or straight car lots of cattle purchased from the pool and fed during the winter months. While to the casual observer it might appear as if these cattle do not require the services of the pool in sorting, there are few, if any, loads as they come from the country that cannot be improved upon for uniformity as to quality, weight and color. It is the few misfits or tail-enders in a load that frequently spoil the sale. If a buyer has to take even two or three cattle in a car load that are not what he wants,

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**THE GRAIN GROWERS' GUIDE**  
WINNIPEG, MAN.

it may handicap the salesman in securing the last nickel for the load.

Even straight car lots of winter fed cattle that were as uniform as it is possible to get them when they were purchased in the fall or early winter months, can generally be re-sorted to advantage when returned to the market. No matter how even the cattle when put together as a load of feeders, some of the steers will have done better than others, and no matter how well fed, there will often be a variation in quality, from the standpoint of the packer, when the cattle are returned to market for sale as beef.

By reason of the pool having at almost all times a large assortment of cattle for sale, shaped up in the most marketable form possible, buyers, whether local or from other markets, are more and more coming to the pool to make their purchases. In addition, orders are being received from various sources, these orders coming to the pool by reason of the buyers knowing that with the large number of cattle handled by the pool, they will be able to get the kind of stuff that they require. Further, the pool aims to build a reputation not only for efficiency but reliability.

## Large Share Re-Shipped

Summing up, the stock yards records show that approximately 75 per cent. of our western cattle are re-shipped alive from the stock yards. The problem of the shipper, as we see it, is to land these cattle at their destination, whether for slaughter or for feed, with as little expense as possible and put together in car lots in the shape in which they will be most attractive to the buyers and consequently bring the best price. The only way that this can be done is through a system of co-operative selling, commonly called "the pool." I can safely say that I am more convinced than ever of the advantages to the shipper of this system after the experience of ten months' operation. Ways and means of improving the preparation of the cattle for market, securing better market prices and under certain conditions influencing the local market, have been actually demonstrated. From the experience gained we would say that the aim of the cattle raisers of Western Canada should be to concentrate as large a percentage of their cattle as possible on the western markets to be sold under the pool system. With the volume handled by the pool, the services of the most experienced and efficient men to handle and sell the cattle can be retained. Only the test of time can prove the advantages of the pool system. The pool has already made rapid strides in the establishment of connections throughout Eastern Canada and the central and eastern States, Great Britain, France and Belgium. From our experience up to the present time we have no doubt as to the outcome of the pool.



# The Brain Browsers' Guide

Winnipeg, Wednesday, January 2, 1924

## East versus West

Reports in the western press of the by-elections in Halifax and Kent, stated that the campaign in both cases was fought around local issues. Just what those local issues were is made plain by the speeches of Hon. J. B. M. Baxter, Conservative M.P. for St. John, who was minister of customs and excise in the re-organized cabinet of Mr. Meighen, in 1921, and who, according to the Halifax Herald, is "the greatest champion of maritime rights at Ottawa today." Extracts from two of Mr. Baxter's speeches, one during the Halifax campaign and the other during the Kent campaign, are given on another page in this issue of The Guide.

The theme of these speeches is that the interests of the maritime provinces were "deliberately and wilfully" sacrificed by the King government as the result of a political bargain between the Liberals and the Progressives by which the Crow's Nest Pass agreement freight rates on grain were restored on the condition of Progressive support to the government. On the strength of this alleged "bargain" concluded "for the sake of a band of grain growers, not real farmers," Mr. Baxter melodramatically announced that while he was not a "secessionist" there was in the maritime provinces a band that was determined to have a fair deal, and not have their rights sacrificed "for men who are not satisfied with an honest deal."

Right Hon. Arthur Meighen has at times a great deal to say about honesty in political controversy, and the pernicious sectionalism which is dividing Canada against herself. Mr. Baxter's speeches indicate that there is a great deal of house-cleaning to be done in this respect within the Conservative party. There is not a word of truth in the allegation of a "political bargain" in connection with the restoration of the Crow's Nest Pass agreement rates on grain. The contention of the Progressives that these rates formed part of an agreement between the Canadian people and the Canadian Pacific Railway, in which the railway received value for the concession of special rates for the express purpose of facilitating the development of agriculture in the West, was endorsed by a number of Liberals on the merits of the question. These Liberals supported the demand of the Progressives because they conscientiously believed the demands to be just. That is the simple truth of the matter; the "political bargain" was invented by Mr. Baxter for local consumption and to influence local votes.

The interests of the maritime provinces, Mr. Baxter declares, were sacrificed in the interests of "a band of grain growers." What does he propose? That the interests of the West should be sacrificed for the sake of the maritime provinces. He would force the shipment of grain through Halifax, no matter what the cost. He would make the West pay higher freight rates in order that Halifax might benefit. What kind of politics is this for an ex-cabinet minister to be playing? My section of the country, first, last and all the time is his motto, and he goes out to secure votes on that platform. Through the protective tariff, of which he is an ardent supporter, the West is yearly mulcted in a sum beside which the concession in grain rates is a trifle. But Mr. Baxter wants everything in sight, and if he cannot get it he is going to set East against West even while he is saying that he is not a "secessionist." He ought to leave the "secessionist" stuff to less responsible politicians, and instead of harping on "my section,

right or wrong," he ought to be helping to solve the problems which the country faces, on a national basis. If he thinks the freight rate question is not fairly settled then let him put the case from a national standpoint not a sectional standpoint. If this country cannot settle its economic and political questions in a manner that is fair and just to the people as a whole, then the outlook for the future is, indeed, gloomy.

## A Reactionary Principle

That the promise of preference made by the British government at the Imperial Conference should be carried out by the new British parliament whatever party assumes the responsibility of government, is the expressed opinion of Premier Smuts, of South Africa, and Premier Massey, of New Zealand. The opinion of Premier Bruce, of Australia, is doubtless the same for Mr. Bruce was the most redoubtable champion of preference in the conference. The conferences, Premier Smuts declared in a speech at Johannesburg, a few days after the British election, would be useless if the decisions reached in them were to be upset by a change of government. Failure to carry out the promises of preference, Premier Massey declared to a representative of the London Times, on December 17, "would be a slap in the face to British sentiment throughout the Empire, and the harm it would do would last for many a long day." Promises made at an Imperial Conference, he contended, were "promises made by the Mother Country to her Dominions and not promises of one party or of one government."

From a democratic standpoint these arguments are utterly inadmissible. In effect they mean that the Imperial Conference is a kind of super-parliament, whose decisions in all circumstances would be binding upon the parliaments of the Dominions and Great Britain. Neither the British people nor the people of the Dominions would for one moment stand for such an obliteration of their parliaments. Governments in the British Commonwealth of Nations are responsible to their respective parliaments, and it is the very essence of democracy that sovereignty resides in parliament. The government which made the promises at the Imperial Conference, made them subject to the approval of parliament. The British people in the general election definitely and positively repudiated the principle upon which the promises were made, and the new parliament has thus no mandate to carry out the promises of preference.

Within the existing systems of laws representatives at the Imperial Conference may make decisions which are intended to promote the interests and well-being of the British Commonwealth of Nations, but the proposition that policies may be formulated at the conferences which shall be binding upon all the members of the Commonwealth without regard to their parliaments, is one that cannot be entertained for one moment. Parliaments may, by agreement, surrender some of their sovereignty in order to accomplish a desirable improvement in international relations, and in this direction lies the great hope for the abolition of wars, but the parliaments themselves must make these arrangements subject to the approval of the people. The decisions and promises made at an Imperial Conference must be subject to the approval of the respective parliaments of the Commonwealth; the arguments of Premier Smuts and Premier Massey, involve a principle so reactionary in char-

acter that one wonders how it could possibly be advanced by the representatives of democracies.

## A Personal Matter

It is seldom that in these columns we refer to personal business relations with our readers. Yet at the opening of the New Year we feel that a few words "just between ourselves" will not be out of place. For fifteen years The Guide has been endeavoring to give a valuable service to the farmers of the West. How well we have succeeded the readers must be the judges. We have had many words of encouragement and the fact that 65,000 out of our 75,000 subscribers are today paid in advance, many of them for several years, we accept as a mark of approval of The Guide's efforts to improve conditions for its readers.

Great changes have taken place in the space of a few years, which have profoundly affected men and institutions. The Guide is not so large, in the number of its pages, as during the period of post-war prosperity. This is because of the general business depression and the lack of the farmers' purchasing power. The size of every farm journal, as well as magazines and daily papers, depends upon the volume of advertising. When the farmers' purchasing power fell the volume of advertising was reduced and journals became smaller. As the size of The Guide became reduced the subscription price was reduced first from \$2.00 to \$1.50, and then to \$1.00, so as to give the reader the best possible value for his money. But even though The Guide is somewhat smaller than a few years ago, it is still by far the largest farm journal in Western Canada, that is, it published far more reading and illustrations in the past twelve months than any other farm journal in this field. The Guide is the only weekly farm journal in the prairie provinces, all others being published monthly or semi-monthly. The special service rendered by The Guide requires weekly publication. It is a service seldom attempted by a farm journal, to provide up-to-date information on farming, together with news and views on farmers' organization efforts and world affairs in general.

Western Canada does not live unto itself alone. The financial return from farming is profoundly affected by what is going on in Europe today, because it affects our markets. Fiscal legislation at Washington also affects our markets. Legislation at Ottawa affects the cost of production. For this reason The Guide aims to keep its readers informed upon these matters outside the prairie provinces which have such an important influence upon the prosperity and well-being of the farm. On the other hand great changes are taking place in farming owing to the readjustment necessary to meet new conditions. Modern marketing methods are being developed and farming activities are becoming diversified. In this field also The Guide is endeavoring to render all possible aid by the publication of authoritative information, the results of experimental work and the experiences of practical farmers. The Guide has consistently advocated policies that it believes will be in the best interests of western farmers and the country generally, and has pursued this policy even at heavy financial sacrifices.

Looking ahead to the New Year The Guide will continue to advocate those policies which are essential to the proper development of Canada. We shall continue and improve



upon the service given during the past year. Hearty co-operation from our readers will enable us to improve The Guide considerably. There are only 10,000 of our subscribers now in arrears from one to four months, but another 10,000 subscriptions will expire during the next few weeks. This is the normal situation at midwinter. While The Guide's main revenue is from advertising yet the subscription revenue is a big factor. One dollar is not a large item either to The Guide or its readers, but \$20,000 is a big item to anybody. If those 20,000 subscribers who are now in arrears or who will shortly be in arrears will send in their renewals promptly when they receive their notices, it will save The Guide a great deal of expense in sending out additional letters and paying agents' commissions for collecting them. All the saving will be used in improving The Guide. The Guide is published for service and not for profits. This is an opportunity for mutual co-operation of a most effective kind. Let us start the New Year right.

### Bracken Ministers Returned

The result of the ministerial by-elections in Manitoba, last week, was generally quite satisfactory. The verdict in these two representative constituencies was strongly for the government. It is an indication that the people are behind Premier Bracken and his colleagues in their efforts to reduce expenditures and lighten the burden upon the taxpayers, and conduct public business upon a business basis. The government may now continue the course which it has been following without paying too much attention to political self-seekers.

While the result of the by-elections was favorable to the government and fortunate for the province generally, it was a severe rebuke to the Conservatives, and contains a suggestion to the leading lights of that party. A little group of the Conservative leaders,

had hypnotized themselves into the belief that the recent sins of their party have been forgotten and forgiven, and that the people were clamoring for their return to office. For some months they have been travelling up and down the province beating the party tom-toms and spreading a little truth together with a great deal of fiction about the government. They became "intoxicated with the exuberance of their own verbosity." Their chief argument against the Bracken government was its extravagance which they attempted to prove by comparing government expenditures today with the expenditures of the Roblin government. Every man of them knew that the excessive expenditures of today are in a large measure uncontrollable and due to the unpardonable waste of public money either in actual expenditures or commitments by the late Conservative government. The people of Manitoba and their children after them will be taxed heavily to pay for the waste, corruption and extravagance of the late government of which they were supporters. The honorable course would have been to admit the situation, but instead they proceeded upon the assumption that the people had short memories. The verdict of the electors should indicate to these gentlemen that the Conservative party must wander in the wilderness for some years yet before it is again entrusted with the conduct of public affairs.

### The Sales Tax

A considerable amount of opposition is developing to the sales tax as amended at the last session of parliament, and which comes into force on the first of January. A special committee of the Toronto Board of Trade has recommended to the finance minister that the sales tax be repealed and that in its place there be established a turnover tax, which would, the committee assures the minister, maintain the revenue of the

government and bear lightly on trade.

Sir Edmund Walker, president of the Canadian Bank of Commerce, supports those who are demanding a turnover tax. The best kind of a tax, he says, is one which does not impose a penalty on enterprise or on the profits of business. He finds the turnover tax, that is a tax imposed at every turnover of goods until they reach the ultimate consumer, to fit in with his definition of the best kind of tax.

It may be that there are serious administrative difficulties in the amended sales tax, but such difficulties most assuredly would not be overcome by putting a turnover tax in its place. The plain truth is that neither the sales tax nor a turnover tax is a good tax, and the latter appears to be preferred to the former not because it is more equitable but because it offers a better chance of passing on the tax to the consumer, and thus bear lightly on trade.

A tax may not be a good one simply because it rests lightly on business. Taxes have to be judged by their effect upon the general welfare of the people, and a tax which rests heavily upon those with the least ability to pay, and lightly upon the profits of business, cannot in justice be called a good tax. Taxes should not press heavily upon the poor nor excessively embarrass business, and when the point is reached at which taxation does both, as it undoubtedly is doing in Canada, there is only one sound course to take, and that is the course of economy. The country should try to get along without either the present sales tax or the proposed substitute, a turnover tax, for neither satisfies the principle of justice in taxation. Rigid economy in government expenditures might make it possible to substantially reduce or even abolish the sales tax, but if such a tax upon consumption is necessary it is better to keep the one we have than risk something worse in the shape of the turnover tax.



The Way of the Transgressor



# The Big Muskeg

## Synopsis of Preceding Chapters

Joe Bostock was building the Missatibi, a branch line through northern Manitoba, to feed the new road that was pushing out to the ports-to-be on the Hudson Bay. It looked as if there had been crooked work and as if the surveyors had been in the pay of Joe's enemies, for directly in its path lay The Big Muskeg. Wilton Carruthers, the chief engineer of Joe's company, and an old friend of Joe, suspected that Bowyer, a member of the legislature and a rival of Joe's, had influenced the surveyors in turning in the false report. In December, Joe and Wilton walked out from camp to The Big Muskeg to see if they could discover some solution of building the remainder of the line either across or around the huge swamp. While they were standing on the edge of the muskeg Wilton was shot in the arm and Joe killed by a bullet fired by an unseen enemy.

Wilton had promised Kitty, Joe's young wife, that he would take good care of Joe, and he set out on the long and dangerous trip back over the muskeg, carrying Joe's body across his shoulder. McDonald, the factor, and his young daughter, Molly, were in charge of the store at the portage. Molly dragged Wilton out of the swamp when the ice gave way and nursed him for days. McDonald hated Wilton, and suspected that his daughter was in love with him. Against her father's will Molly took care of Wilton and sheltered Joe's dead body.

Bowyer came to the store and tried to make love to Molly. Wilton's sudden appearance on the scene was a great surprise to Bowyer who claimed that he had come to look around. He asked to see Joe. Wilton, puzzled at Bowyer's manner, decided not to tell him that Joe was dead. Bowyer then informed Wilton that he wanted to buy the Missatibi and scoffed at the idea of Joe thinking he could finish the line. Wilton's anger rose at Bowyer's insulting manner and he struck him. Bowyer departed with a threat that he would get Carruthers yet.

## CHAPTER VI

### The Secret

Wilton groaned with pain in his broken arm, caused by the twist of his body as he delivered the blow. For an instant the room swam about him. Then the scene cleared, and Molly was holding him.

Her eyes, fixed on his, were filled with pity, and a maternal yearning over him that touched him unspeakably. Her face was very near his own. Wilton realized of a sudden what he had known in a dim way even before his fourth arrival at the portage—that Molly McDonald was the one girl in the world for him.

He drew her to him and bent his lips to hers. Then, because he was not very well versed in many things of the world, in spite of his thirty years, he looked as if he had committed an unpardonable insult. But Molly opened her shut lids, and the eyes that smiled into Wilton's did not show signs of any anger, nor even of surprise.

"This isn't Winnipeg, Will," she said, with a little happy catch in her voice.

The marvel of their love transfigured them in each other's sight. They were hardly aware of Bowyer's departure. It was not until Molly realized that there was the supper to prepare that she became practical once more.

"Why must you go to-morrow?" she asked, wistfully. "A message could be sent to Kitty—"

"It's more than that, Molly," said Wilton. "It's the line itself—Joe's work—that is at stake, and I've got to be at the shareholders' meeting on Wednesday morning. You see, it's this way," he went on to explain.

"We laid out our route to cross Big Muskeg at this point, and miles have been completed. But our surveyors were either too optimistic or had been bought by Bowyer. We found, when it was too late to change our plans, that Big Muskeg was a harder proposition than anyone had suspected. There's forty feet and more of quickmud where we believed bed-rock to exist a few feet down. The records lied. And you can't lay a permanent way upon mud.

"We found it necessary to stop work on the line until we knew whether it would be possible to proceed. Joe and I came up to make a final examination for our report to the shareholders on Wednesday. We know Big Muskeg can be crossed. The point is whether we have money enough for the necessary work, and perhaps months of extra labor. The alternative is to change

our route and swing a big loop around it.

"The shareholders are frightened, and Phayre, of the Bank of New North Manitoba, who is an influential one, and represents Bowyer, has had the tip from him to make trouble. Bowyer didn't want the line till the transcontinental route was shifted northward. Now he does, partly because we shall ultimately link up with it and become a valuable property. And I think he suspects that there's something in our territory worth the developing.

"The plan is to refer the situation to a commission of engineers, who, of course, would be largely in Bowyer's pay, and would report that the present route is not feasible. That would mean increasing our capital, and the issue of new stock would give Bowyer and Phayre the controlling interest. As things stand, Joe controls the company, although he hasn't actually a majority of the shares."

Molly noticed that Wilton unconsciously spoke of Joe as if he were still alive.

"That's how it is," said Wilton. "Joe would take most chances, but he wouldn't gamble with the fortunes of those who trusted him, even to fight Bowyer. He

means in his power. That's how I met Kitty. But what do you think Mr. Bowyer meant by his suggestion about coal on your lands?"

"There is no coal," said Wilton. "Molly, dear, I'll tell you what our secret is. I was pledged to Joe—but the secret's mine now, and I can tell you. It isn't coal—it's clay."

"Clay, Wilton?"

"Clay. It's more valuable than coal or gold. It's clay land that the wheat grows on, or, rather, in the rich topsoil of loam, with the clay subsoil to seal and preserve the rainfall, yet easily drained with a little labor.

"I discovered it when I was prospecting up this way four years ago. It's probably an extension of the New Ontario clay belt, and, if so, it runs for hundreds of miles through this part of Northern Manitoba. It means that the wheat area of Canada will be increased by thousands of square miles. It means the clearing of the bush, settlers, homes, fertile lands, and huge harvests where the forests and the Indians have been since the beginning of time. It means homes and prosperity for thousands who are now struggling for a bare living in our cities.

"That appealed to Joe. He was a man, if ever there was one. He saw the money in it, and the value of the line, but he saw farther than that. He was looking ahead, years after he was gone. He wanted to do good in his own way.

He'd had a hard time when he was a young



They arrived at the cache to find the two policemen waiting for them.

wanted to have reasonable hopes that the line could be pushed through. He gave me his power of attorney to vote for him, in case of accident. And I have it here. That's why I must be at the meeting, Molly. Otherwise that motion for an engineers' commission goes through. And Bowyer told me that he means to have the line.

"Tom Bowyer is a bad enemy," said Molly.

"He was always that, but at least he's come out into the open now. But Kitty'll fight him. Joe made no mistake when he took her for a partner."

"She was as true as steel to Joe," said Molly. "Kitty and Joe were very good to me when I was in Winnipeg last winter. You know, I went to see Joe to ask about the possibility of getting office work—in case I had to ever. And Joe wanted to do everything for me—train me, and help me with all the

man. And because people believed

in Joe, though he dared not tell them his secret, they lent him the capital, and took up his shares. That was Joe's dream—and

it's mine, Molly."

She listened breathlessly as he revealed his dream to her, and yet, perhaps, womanlike, she was happy rather in the revelation of himself than in the altruism of the dead man.

"That's what the Missatibi meant to Joe," said Wilton. "That's why we mean to fight to keep it out of Bowyer's hands. Molly, dear, when I realized that Joe was dead, everything seemed ended for the line. I couldn't see how we were going to carry on without him. It's only now—now that I have found something as well as lost everything—that I can begin to pick up my courage."

She laughed and put her face down on his shoulder.

"No other man could have got money for such a road without divulging his purpose," continued Wilton. "No other man could have begun a line out

into the bush, with the mere promise of some day completing it southward to join another line that didn't exist.

"Well, when Joe's death came home to me, I thought things over in there, and it seemed to me that the only thing possible for me would be to go before the shareholders and tell them frankly what lay behind the enterprise—I mean the clay lands and their development.

"Well, Molly, I've changed my mind. I won't tell them. I'll keep control for Kitty. Joe and I agreed that, if we told them, we couldn't keep the line from Bowyer and his crowd. The knowledge would have brought all the predatory interests in the province down on us. They'd buy and buy, and send the shares up until the little investors, tucked away in the country places, who knew Joe, felt forced to sell their shares.

"Bowyer would wreck the line, and there'd have been an end of all Joe's dreams. I won't tell them. And I'll advise the shareholders to proceed with the route we've planned. I'll take the responsibility. Big Muskeg can be crossed. It shall be.

"And I'll do more than that, Molly. I'll get the shareholders' authorization before they know Joe's dead. If they knew that, it'd be all up with the line. Bowyer doesn't know. Nobody knows except ourselves. I don't like doing that. But I'm fighting for Kitty now, and Joe would have approved."

He stopped and laughed at his own vehemence.

"I've told you all this, Molly," he said, "because you have the right to know. And just as soon as we've won I shall be in a position to ask you to be my wife. Will you, dear?"

Molly turned and put her hands on his shoulders.

"Yes, Will," she answered. "And I hope with all my heart that you succeed in carrying out Joe's plans. And I believe you will. And I believe you will find a way to cross Big Muskeg. I see now that I must let you go, though I can't bear to, Will. But now I must say something. You know my father—"

"Doesn't altogether approve of me as a son-in-law, to put it mildly," answered Wilton. "I can't make out the reason for his dislike of me. The first time I came here we struck up a friendship that looked as if it would be good for all time. Do you know what the trouble is, Molly?"

"I'm afraid Tom Bowyer has been influencing him against you. He has a strong power over father. He helped him in some way when he first came to this country."

"Then that's another score against our friend Bowyer," said Wilton.

"But I was going to say—you see, my father's mind has given way to some extent since his stroke, and—I don't know, Will, dear, but I'm almost afraid he is never going to be the same man again. It started even before his attack—this feeling against you, and his moroseness. It began when Tom Bowyer was here last autumn."

"Your father wasn't over-pleasant to me the second time I came. The third time he was distinctly disagreeable. Both those times must have been after Bowyer's visit."

"Yes. The second time you came was a few days after he had been here. I'm afraid Tom Bowyer slandered you to father. And I think it was my father's brooding over things that really caused his illness. So we'll just have to be patient. And I'm going to ask you, for the present, not to say anything about this to him."

Wilton promised, though with reluctance. He did not like the concealment. His mind, simple and direct, worked in straightforward ways. However, he had been too hard hit over Joe's death to make room for a new trouble. And he could not have refused Molly.

Continued on Page 16



# Canadian Bacon Abroad

**D**URING the past year Canadian bacon has improved its position on the British market. It is now generally quoted eight shillings per hundred below Danish, whereas a year ago it was constantly ten shillings lower than this preferred product. American bacon has remained at the same relative level below our Canadian.

This advance is due to two factors. To a slight extent there has been an improvement of hogs due to the premium offered for selects. But more important than this, because it is too early to expect a recorded improvement of live animals at this stage, is the improvement which packers have effected in putting up the product.

A year ago Canadian bacon was treated with borax as a preservative and put up in boxes. We had our minds pretty well made up that that was the only way Canadian bacon would stand the ocean passage and storage in England before it got into the consumer's pantry. Within the twelve-month Canadian packers have commenced shipping unboraxed bacon, put up four sides to the bale, in the approved Danish fashion, sewn in cheesecloth and covered with jute sacking.

## Taken Out of Speculative Market

Now there is this advantage about unboraxed bacon, it must be disposed of immediately. It cannot be stored by importers awaiting favorable price changes like the boraxed article. Properly prepared in the kitchen, fresh boraxed bacon is practically as palatable as that which has not been treated. But the tendency of the importer who is handling both classes is to keep the unboraxed sides always on the move, using the preserved article as a sort of reserve stock to draw on when receipts are low or during a favorable run of prices. Kept for a while, the borax preservative eats into the side and damages the flavor. As the English consumer rarely got the Canadian product fresh in the days of box shipment, he had no occasion to remember it as anything but a mediocre article.

"Don't misinterpret me as saying that all Canadian bacon is now sacked," said Mr. McOuat. "We are still shipping some boxed and boraxed bacon, but the amount is rapidly decreasing and I look to see it become a thing of the past in the near future. Indeed, it is a good thing for us in another way. Britain is the only importing country which allows the use of borax as a preservative in unbranded foodstuffs. There is a strong agitation among medical men in England, well supported by certain sections of public opinion, to forbid its use altogether because of alleged injurious effects. Possibly we are forearming ourselves against the day when this view becomes law. A year ago we would have faced any trade adjustment like this with the gravest concern, firm in the belief that the use of borax was indispensable for transatlantic shipment."

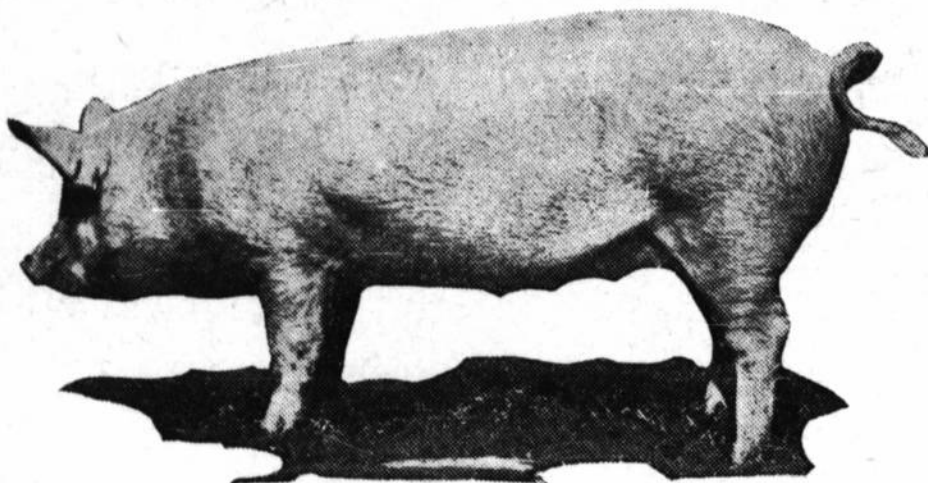
## The Importance of Volume

The chief requirements in bacon intended for the British market are: (1) Volume, evenly distributed throughout the year; (2) comparatively fresh cure; (3) a standard length, shape and distribution of fat; (4) standard weights. There can be some deviation from the standard as to weights but not as to cure. Consumers' tastes in Britain are cultivated by shopkeepers to a much greater extent than they are here, as a result consumers and retailers stick to certain brands. That explains the importance of even distribution of shipments throughout the year.

London is the centre of the bacon trade. It is the centre of continental influence. It is the most discriminating market, consequently, the highest priced. It is the market in which we have elected to compete.

Canadian bacon is better butchered, trimmed and packed than any which comes on the London market, not ex-

*Progress Registered in the Better Bacon Campaign Initiated Two Years Ago---From the Speech of L. C. McOuat, Dominion Bacon Specialist, at the Western Canada Livestock Union Convention at Victoria*



A Typical Bacon Hog

This pig is the product of three factors: Knowledge of the British consumer's requirements, careful breeding and expert feeding.—Photo by courtesy of Industrial Council of Canadian Meat Packers.

cepting even the highly-prized Danish. It would appear as though our weights were wrong. When the weight range of 160-210 pounds was chosen for selects, it was estimated that the sides would be just about right for the British trade. Experience shows that our sides average a little underweight, probably because farmers, apprehensive of having their stock graded as heavies, market them well under weight instead of marketing as close to 200 pounds as possible. Mr. McOuat asked the convention to consider a resolution requesting the federal department of agriculture to increase the weights on selects in order to bring up the average weight of our exported sides. At the same time he contended that it would be a mistake to raise the weight range on thick smooths for the following reason: Western Canada, where thick smooths are marketed in greatest proportion, is not at the present time sending Wiltshire sides to Great Britain. Prairie pigs find their way to the Empire's metropolis as Cumberlands and cut meats, and so high is their quality that a Western Canadian firm fixed the price all last year on this class of pork products. To alter live-weights on thick smooths would jeopardize what has been a very profitable outlet during the past year.

## A Knotty Point

In the discussion which this point raised, one delegate affirmed that he would not favor raising weights on selects unless they were also raised on thick smooths, because it would cause confusion on the part of hog raisers.

He reminded the convention that many hog growers were still suspicious of the whole hog grading program, and this sort of a move would give them fresh grounds for complaint. There seemed to be a general willingness to raise the upper limit of selects but not to raise the lower limit, but one delegate reminded the convention that these regulations had been framed in consultation with the packers, and their co-operation had been extended in carrying out the whole program. It was not fair to increase the range of weights without taking the matter up with the packers for their continued co-operation was essential for progress. Mr. McOuat averred that the packers would consent to a change. No agreement was reached.

In spite of all that he has read and heard, Mr. McOuat does not think it impossible for us to reach the same standard of perfection in bacon production as the Danes. The only advantage they have over us at the present time is that they have the evenly-distributed volume so necessary, and a temporary advantage of a lower exchange rate. The remarkable thing about their shipments is the large volume which comes within the weight range.

## Relative Choices

The highest price bacon on the English market is the home-cured article. It is inferior to the best imported stuff, coarser and heavier, but it commands the premium, first, because it is English, and second because it is fresh. Irish and Danish come next, a prefer-

ence based in both cases on quality, freshness, and a reputation of long standing. Swedish and Dutch are both irregular in supply and in price, sometimes above and sometimes below Canadian. Far below these comes the American.

The records of hog grading show what the better bacon campaign has accomplished along the line of producing a more suitable live animal. On all stock yards the number of hogs coming within the select grade increased from 12 per cent. to 17 per cent. The number coming above the weight range has been greatly reduced, and most of the heavies now sold come just over the 210 pound limit. Along with better breeding, attention has been focussed on more economical feeding and securing better finish. As a consequence the thick smooths marketed in 1923 were better pigs than the thick smooths of the previous year.

The recommendations which Mr. McOuat brought to the convention were: (1) that more of our selects be marketed at 200 instead of so many which just pass the lower weight limit; (2) continued attention to feeding methods, particularly with the view of growing pigs out well before putting them on self-feeders; (3) better breeding stock; (4) obliging drovers to buy on a graded basis; (5) better selection among hog breeds.

## What is a Wiltshire?

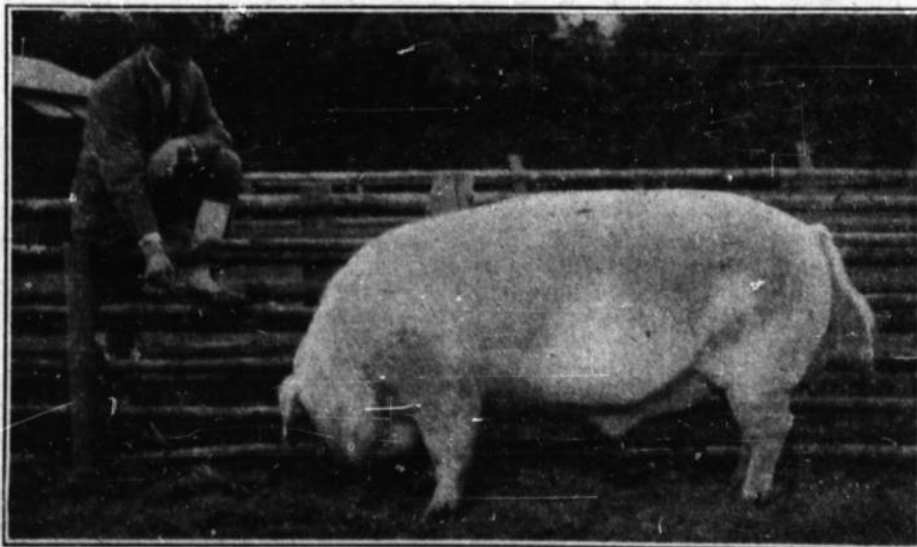
There has been a good deal of confusion of thought in the West over the term Wiltshire, and Mr. McOuat's explanation clearing up this point is very timely, as it has an important bearing on the popular demand for an outward grading of bacon from packing plants as a check on hog grading. It is commonly alleged that packers are shipping as Wiltshire sides the product of hogs bought as thick smooths. So they do. There is no connection between the term "Wiltshire" and the grade "select." The former is a trade term signifying a carcass cut up in a certain way. A select at 200 pounds will make a more readily salable Wiltshire side than one from a 200-pound thick-smooth hog, but provided they have both been butchered and trimmed according to specifications, both sides are still Wiltshires.

Similarly there is some confusion as to the use of the classification, leanest, lean and prime. These are terms relating to the thickness of back fat. A select might have a thicker covering of back fat than a thick smooth. There is no correspondence between the grades into which the live animals are classified, and the trade names applied to the product. There is no word to enable us to visualize a grade of bacon like "select." But after all is said, a select makes the best bacon because he comes nearer to meeting all the requirements as to length, shape and covering of fat, and for that reason he should be earnestly recommended to swine growers.

## Liquidate Present Holdings

The suggestion has been put forward to prohibit the export of second grade hogs by way of building up a reputation for our product abroad. Mr. McOuat vigorously combatted this idea because he said, that we could not consume the surplus, and the inevitable result of such a policy would be to lower the domestic price. It will be a matter of years before production in Canada will be on the most profitable export basis. In the meantime we would have many off-type hogs to sell, and he favored a policy which would enable Canadian farmers to liquidate their present holdings to best advantage.

Mr. McOuat was very optimistic of the future of the bacon industry in Canada. He believed, and in this he was in agreement with other speakers at the convention competent to judge, that Canadian farmers were better situated for the economical production of high-grade bacon hogs than farmers in competing countries.



This is one of the best Landrace boars in Denmark, photographed by J. G. Robertson, Saskatchewan's livestock commissioner, on his recent tour of observation. By systematically crossing Landrace and Yorkshire swine the Danes, along with the Irish, are producing the best bacon in the world.



# The Stockman's Parliament

**T**HE Western Canada Livestock Union held its eleventh annual convention at Victoria, B.C., December 13, 14 and 15. Whereas the 1922 convention was a time of anxious stocktaking, so may the dominating note of this convention be said to have been confidence. For in the intervening year the British market has been opened to Canadian cattle, the U.G.G. pool has had ten months' successful operation; the bacon hog campaign has brought us recognition of the product in Britain; and the Orient has made the first big purchases in what promises to be a thriving trade in livestock products. The convention was free from anything in the nature of glorifying over these achievements, but the feeling that last year's thought and striving brought results wrought its effect.

President G. H. Hutton, went over the resolutions of the past year indicating what action had been taken. Upon the request of the union, a bacon specialist, L. C. McOuat, had been appointed. The fight for a reduction of the minimum weights on car-load shipments of sheep had been carried on for the union by Vice-president G. H. Herbert. The case had been well received by the Railway Commission but judgment had not yet been handed down. The request of the union for the appointment of a British markets representative had resulted in the appointment of W. A. Wilson, formerly of the Saskatchewan Co-operative Dairies Ltd. Mr. Hutton spoke of the work of J. L. Walters, appointee of the union to the feeding stuffs board.

## Why Not a Tariff War?

Speaking of the American tariff on cattle, Mr. Hutton reviewed the dealings between the union and the Ottawa government. An export tariff or embargo on pulp and nickel ore was suggested as a retaliatory measure. Exports in these two commodities last year to the United States totalled \$221,000,000, so it may be seen what a formidable weapon we held in case of a tariff war. This might be countered with an embargo on coal aimed at the provinces of Quebec and Ontario, but Mr. Hutton thought that the threat of dearer paper would marshal to our support influential American newspapers. He was informed that there had been an exchange of views on this important subject between the two governments.

The application of the union for a reduction of express rates on certain classes of livestock had been refused. Railway companies would be only too glad to see this class of business disappear.

While the union was not directly responsible, the year past marked the inauguration of stocker and feeder shows. A tremendous growth in winter feeding was recorded, and also a gratifying increase in dairying and swine raising. "Hope for the future," said Mr. Hutton, "lay in putting out a better quality of product in all livestock lines, in order to meet world wide competition in the best markets."

## The Oriental Market

Edgar Nobles, a young Canadian, trained in the wholesale meat business, addressed the convention on the possibilities of the Oriental market. A few years ago a trade in livestock products with Japan and China was practically non-existent. Last year the Orient took a million pounds of Alberta butter, and the frozen beef business was beginning to assume important proportions. One shipment left Vancouver recently with 150 tons for Japan, and 150 tons represents roughly 500 cattle. Japanese boats now carry small quantities of frozen beef as regular cargo.

The fact that Japan could be supplied by a 14-day service, whereas Australian boats with their many intermediate calls took twice that length of time, and that all other livestock-producing countries save Canada had to carry their Oriental shipments through the torrid zone, were the two things that promised well for Canada. The Japs

## Western Canada Livestock Union Holds Convention at Victoria---Orient Promises to Become Important Market for Livestock Products---New Agreement with British Government Affecting Movement of Imported Canadian Cattle Promulgated

are a proud and progressive race, and Mr. Nobles' account of their rapid adoption of European diet unfolded great possibilities to the convention.

### Shipped Live Cattle

Enlarging upon Mr. Nobles' account of the possibilities in, and the difficulties ahead of a trade with the Orient in live cattle, W. T. McDonald, B.C., livestock commissioner, told of his experience in shipping dairy cows to China. He had a standing order for some months for thirty cows, and was unable to get boat space, so urgent is the Oriental demand for lumber. Boats going from Pacific coast ports all summer and fall have been loaded to the limit. Space was finally secured at \$75 per head for cows and \$100 for bulls. Mr. McDonald made it plain that this rate was to Hong Kong, the fourth port of call, and that the rate to Japanese ports would be considerably less. Furthermore, it could hardly be said that a rate existed till a trade became established. Given the normal conditions under which steamship companies look for cargoes, the rate to all of these ports would be lower. Incidentally, the cattle in the shipment supervised by Mr. McDonald all stood the voyage well.

Duncan Marshall deprecated the idea of a cattle or beef trade with the Orient. The freight rates quoted by Mr. McDonald precluded the possibility of establishing an extensive trade in that line so Mr. Marshall thought. So far as refrigerated beef was concerned, he was of the opinion that as Canadians couldn't meet the Argentine competition in Britain, where chilled beef was landed at four cents a pound, so too in Japan, the Argentinians would eventually command that trade. Mr. Marshall then made comparisons which pointed at the wisdom of concentrating on the British market.

Mr. Noble was not under the necessity of defending his case, for half a dozen men on the floor of the convention rose to say that the cattle man welcomed relief in any degree from any quarter.

Olaf Olafson, of Mortlach, Sask., whose epigrammatic observations have been the delight of many stockmen's conventions, stated that it took experienced men like Mr. Marshall to show the unsurmountability of difficulties and young men like Mr. Noble to show how they could be and were being overcome.

### The American Outlet

Jas. E. Poole, America's foremost writer on livestock marketing, was billed to speak on the American tariff. Unable to appear in person, his paper was read. Mr. Poole is a Canadian by origin, and is heartily opposed to the tariff against Canadian cattle. In season and out of season, Mr. Poole has given his great services to the exposition of the view that this tariff hurts the American feeder and the Canadian producer alike, benefiting no one in any appreciable measure. Mr. Poole was frank enough to admit that nothing could be expected from a Republican administration and predicted no revocation of the duty on cattle if the 1924 election were won by that party. If the Democratic party is victorious at the polls, the tariff would probably be discarded. No power on

earth could change the policy of the Republican party in respect to the tariff, and in this view he was supported by many interviews with men in high station.

A telegram was read from C. W. Peterson, urging strong action to obtain reduction on the tariff against Canadian cattle. W. L. Carlyle, speaking from many years' familiarity with the question on both sides of the line, was of the opinion that Americans would resent any meddling in what was a matter of their own domestic concern, and that a campaign of publicity set afoot by Canadians would have an effect contrary to what was intended.

G. W. Swaisland, of the Molson's Bank, Vancouver, was the spokesman for the Canadian Bankers' Association. He displayed a commendable wish for closer co-operation between banker and livestock producer, but did not seem particularly well posted on the prairie

there was nothing to gain by not doing so the old custom was restored.

One delegate asked if the upkeep of the extensive country organization of the pool—the district shippers—did not take as much out of the pocket of the producer as the drovers of old. Mr. Rice-Jones stated that a thorough examination on this point would satisfy that the district shipper did not take anything like the sale value of the cattle which the drovers, now replaced, used to get. The district shipper is paid a commission, and it is in his interest to market the cattle in his neighborhood in the best condition in order to command the greatest return. The drover aforesaid became the owner of the cattle by outright purchase. His interest was to get the cattle at the cheapest price and sell them at the best price. He studied market fluctuations with a view to increasing his margin of profit.

### The Ottawa Viewpoint

H. S. Arkell, Dominion Livestock Commissioner, took stock of progress during the year. The improvement in Canadian bacon was recognized and its price had moved closer to the Danish and further from the cheaper American product. Canada is now as well organized for the marketing of livestock, said he, as any other country on the face of the earth, not even excepting Denmark. In support of this he reviewed the situation in regard to stock yards supervision, co-operative wool marketing, bacon and egg grading, and the advance of the last year in marketing butter and cheese. Mr. Arkell spoke of the educational work being accomplished through boys' and girls' pig clubs.

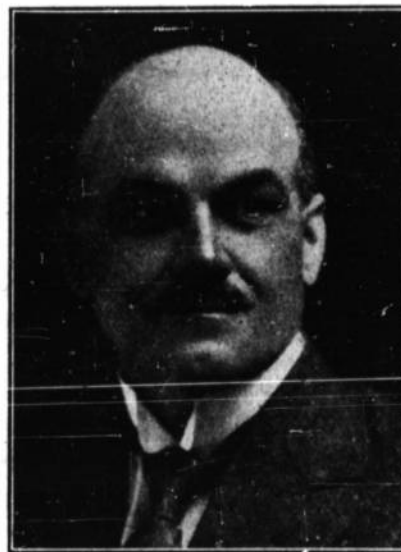
One of the outstanding addresses of the convention was given by L. C. McOuat, the bacon expert of the federal department of agriculture. A report of this appears elsewhere in this issue of The Guide.

Those two staunch fighters, Duncan Marshall and Dr. Grisdale, who, during the year, conducted the case for the admission of Canadian cattle into Britain, according to the spirit of the agreement entered into by the governments concerned, next engaged the attention of the convention with a report of their labors.

Dr. Grisdale stated that at no time in Great Britain since the embargo was legally removed has there been any criticism of the way in which Canada had observed her bargain over cattle shipping regulations. The Canadian exporters have done nothing

to endanger the privileges which have been accorded them in this new market, but some importers have not on all occasions observed the letter of the law. The very first breach of the spirit of the agreement was made the occasion of a question in the House of Commons at Westminster, and soon after new regulations were put into force by which British inspectors arbitrarily determined what cattle should be killed as fat. Inspection has been irregular, inconsistent and unfair, visiting loss on shippers and seriously threatening continuation of the business. He cited instances of differences of classification on the same shipment by two different inspectors, too wide to be explained as errors in judgment. At Avonmouth, where facilities for killing are poor, a large percentage was ordered killed on the spot. At Liverpool, where facilities for killing were good, no such objections were raised. The reason for rejection as stores was sometimes based on the fact that the cattle were too well finished for further profitable feeding. In other cases the stock was said to be

Continued on Page 22



Geo. H. Hutton

Re-elected for the fifth consecutive year to the presidency of the Western Canada Livestock Union.

livestock producer's financial problems. He traced present day difficulties to four sources: high cost of living, high taxation, underpopulation and too easy credit. He took a rap at provincial savings banks, and the way in which their funds were invested. Banks were taxed 30 per cent. of their gross profits last year, was Mr. Swaisland's charge. The address drew fire from F. J. Collyer, Welwyn, Sask., W. D. Lyon, Deveron, Sask., G. F. Herbert, Vauxhall, Alta., Dr. Warnock, deputy minister of agriculture, B.C., and Olaf Olafson.

### Pool Gets Attention

C. Rice-Jones, of the United Grain Growers, addressed the convention on the cattle pool. His abridged speech is found elsewhere in this issue of The Guide. In answer to a question, Mr. Rice-Jones said that since July 1, it has been the custom to put appraisal values on the scale tickets when pooled cattle were weighed. This course was not followed at first, and the failure to observe this practice was misinterpreted by those not friendly to the pool. As



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**MARK H. JACKSON**  
No. 674K Durston Bldg.  
SYRACUSE, N.Y.

Mr. Jackson is responsible. Above statement true.

### Manitoba Request Refused

In a letter which has lately been received in Winnipeg, Hon. W. R. Motherwell, federal minister of agriculture, states that the Dominion government has declined to admit dairy cattle from Wisconsin to Western Canada free of duty. The minister points out that pure-bred cattle are admitted free of duty, and adds that the minister of customs considers the regulations at present in effect reasonable, and does not see any necessity for a departure from that policy.

Mr. Motherwell offers the growing trade in dairy cattle between Eastern and Western Canada, as proof that the eastern provinces can supply our needs, and counsels purchase in Ontario, with supreme indifference to the matter of relative prices and the westerners difficulty in these times of financing the change to mixed farming so confidently recommended by all advisors.

The minister's letter reads:

"With reference to the subject matter discussed at a conference held in Premier Bracken's office on the 16th November, I may state that since returning to Ottawa, I have gone very carefully into the whole question of the supply of dairy cattle in Eastern Canada, and also, have taken up with my colleague, the minister of customs, the question of the admission of Wisconsin dairy cattle free of duty.

"As you know, the present Customs Act admits to Canada only pure-bred cattle duty free, and any change in the act would probably take months to bring about. In addition to this, in view of the high American tariff against Canadian cattle, I fear the majority of our people would not look favorably upon the admission of American cattle to Canada, free of duty, as long as the Fordney tariff penalizes our cattle to the extent it does.

### Advices Purchase in East

"Mr. Bureau, the minister of customs, takes the ground that the regulations that now exist, appear to be reasonable, and his department does not see any reason why departure should be made from the present policy.

"Following my return, I had instructions issued to our livestock branch to make enquiries with regard to good dairy stock available in Eastern Canada, and for your information, I might state that in the Brockville and Belleville districts in Ontario, we find 500 grade cattle about to freshen in the spring, can be purchased from \$60 to \$85 per head. In the Lachute district, one of the chief dairy centres in Quebec, about a car load a week would be available for some time, while in the Valleyfield, Howick and Ormstown districts, there would be no difficulty in shipping several car loads per week for some months.

### Trade Now in Progress

"I am told that last week, Mr. Sims, from Manitoba, shipped five car loads of cattle from Brockville to the West, so from these reports, it would look as though we have a very fair market here for the immediate needs of our western farmers.

"I am, however, very strongly in favor of farmers taking up the dairying business wherever conditions justify, and let me assure you that the services of both myself and my staff will be available at any time for the purpose of securing more and better dairy stock for the farmers of the West.

"In conclusion, might I refer you to the following extract from several letters I have already addressed to Manitoba farmers on this important question, taken from the report of W. W. Fraser, Manitoba livestock commissioner:

"Rather than buy expensive cows, ready to freshen, farmers should consider the advantage of buying heifers approaching their first calving. At present, a cow ready to freshen will cost from \$75 to \$100, while a heifer that does not carry sufficient flesh to attract the butcher can be bought in the Winnipeg Stock Yards at two and one-quarter cents per pound; weighing 700 to 800 pounds, she costs \$18 to \$20.

"Frequently it occurs that the beginner has \$18 or \$20 with which to buy a cow, but has not \$75 to \$100."

(Signed) W. R. Motherwell.

### Mr. Sims' Evidence

A suitable reply to the generalizations of Mr. Motherwell may be found in the statement of the same Mr. Sims referred to in the above letter. Mr. Sims has just returned from Eastern Canada where he had been for the past month endeavoring to buy cows to fill orders from Manitoba farmers, who either wish to increase their dairy herds or who wish to make a beginning in the dairy business. Mr. Sims has secured his five cars of cows, but he did not find it by any means so easy a job, as the statement made by Hon. W. R. Motherwell in connection with his recent refusal to remove the duty on dairy cows coming in from the United States, would lead one to believe.

Mr. Sims says there are lots of good dairy cows in Ontario, numbers that will produce from 7,000 to 9,000 pounds of milk and from that up to 12,000, but such cows are worth from \$125 up on the farms of the men who own them, and in more than one case when he made even a bid of \$125 for a cow he was met with a smile and the statement that already the man had been bid \$150.

### Price Almost Prohibitive

"Cows at \$125 on Ontario farms," said Mr. Sims, "when cost of assembling, freight, feed and other expenses are added would be pretty dear cows for the average farmer in Manitoba to buy, in fact, not many could afford cows at that price. There is another difficulty also, and that is that a man may buy a number of cows and have them go down under the T.B. test. The Ontario farmer with cows to sell will say quite calmly that he will not go to the expense and trouble of having the cow tested; if you wish to buy her there is the price, and if you wish to test her that is your business also.

"In one car lot which I bought on first going to Ontario," said Mr. Sims, "I went down in the test.

"Dairy farmers in Ontario are engaged in the business of producing milk, very much as Manitoba farmers some years ago were engaged in producing wheat, and at the moment, and for some years past, they have not been paying sufficient attention to the rearing of their young female stock, with the result that there are in Ontario, today, a very large number of dairy cows that are undersized and with poor milk records or none, and many of them are very thin. These can be picked up in car lots at short order, but they are not the class of cows for which I had orders, nor are they the class of cows which Manitoba needs or should buy. We have a sufficient number of poor cows in the province now.

### Not Suitable for Manitoba

"To sum the matter up, Ontario has many fine cows very high in price and many inferior cows that could be bought at lower figures, but not such cows as Manitoba wants or should have.

"In Quebec, especially among the Ayrshire men, they appeared to have a place for every high-class cow nearly due to freshen, and anyone attempting to buy cows there would have to compete against the demand of the dairy farmers who supply Montreal with milk, and the demand is a steadily growing one.

"The farmers of Ontario," continued Mr. Sims, "received me very kindly and were quite willing to sell cows to the West, but the class of cows that many of my orders called for, could not be bought at a price whereby they could be laid down in Winnipeg much under \$150, and I was not able to fill all the orders I received. Oddly enough, I found pure-bred cows relatively cheaper than high-class grades."

### With the Woolies

No other farm animal calls for less attention and worry than sheep under right conditions. Only at lambing period do they call for any special notice. No other animals can weather the repeated storms and exposure that is possible to most breeds of sheep. They resemble their wild mountain ancestors in this respect while on range. Neither do sheep stand tendering and pampering very well, or any mode of

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life that makes for too great ease in life. The wise shepherd sees that under reasonable conditions his sheep are forced to live hardily as far as possible. Sheep should not be sheltered in a tight barn or along with other stock in stables. They will catch diseases and be unhealthy if thus shut up. Under western conditions it is almost necessary to have some kind of shed or barn for them, though in Great Britain and warmer countries they are seldom provided. In Canada the sheep barn usually is, and rightly so, the poorest constructed stock building on the farm. The main things it should provide are good drainage, good ventilation without draughts, plenty of sunlight, convenient feeding racks if fed inside, adjustable divisions for lambing time, and plenty of capacity for storing feed, such as hay, green feed, grain and roots. The roof should be tight to prevent all dampness.

An open shed is one of the very best of farm sheep sheds. It should be sheltered from the north side or prevailing winds. If fed outside as most people do, it is wise to build feeding racks of good size and well up from the ground. Then a good load of straw or hay can be put in at once to last a whole day or more if desired. If racks are low

enough grain can be fed in the bottom of them, though separate boxes are usually used instead. Sheep should get plenty of exercise if possible during winter, and if there is a good sized feed lot they will get considerable. In fine weather they can also be left out in the fields if desired.

The yards and barns for sheep should be kept clean and neat, the same as for any other successfully kept stock. Unventilated, foul sheds, with decaying matter of all kinds therein are harbors for disease and play havoc with the lamb crop.

Watchful eyes should be kept on the sheep flock whether large or small. Old, broken-mouthed and deformed ewes should be culled out. Good rams only should be used, and the flock built up to a good standard. This will be the signs of success with a sheep breeder.

#### A Heroic Occupation

Under range conditions sheep are kept out on pasture practically the year round, being all the time under the eyes of the watchful shepherd. Even at night under any unusual circumstances the herder must be up and on the watch. They drift in storms and sheep herds can only follow them trying to head them to a sheltered place. Sometimes even when in a coral camp they try to lie down during storms and soon a big pile of suffocated sheep results if the shepherd is not there to turn them right out in the driving storm to keep them moving about. Frozen noses and faces are common amongst herders. Only during big storms or very deep snow are range sheep fed, except in the spring near lambing time. Big sheepmen usually slaughter every sick sheep to prevent infection. Sick sheep seldom get well and under ordinary conditions it seldom pays to go to any bother unless you are thoroughly experienced with that trouble and are practically sure you can save it. That doesn't mean you shouldn't pay attention and keep out diseases or prevent their spread. It means that diseases and conditions that make disease must be cured and prevented before they break out. It is wise to use a reasonable amount of good tonics to keep sheep thrifty.

#### Sheep and Farm Profits

There are comparatively few farms on the open prairie sections where sheep cannot be kept with profit. There is sufficient waste material on the average farm to feed a small flock the greater part of the year. Sheep have a decided advantage over most other farm animals since they can pasture closer and clean the stubble fields more thoroughly, and they will consume almost any green weed plant excepting possibly French Weed and one or two others.

That sheep are a profitable investment has been proven on the Dominion Experimental Station at Scott. In a four-year period, 1917-1921, the returns from a commercial flock of from 100 to 130 grade Shropshire ewes amounted to \$6,028.46. During the greater part of this period the prices for wool and mutton were high. The flock was decreased in 1921 to about 80 head of breeding females. The returns in 1921 were \$777.89 or about \$10 per ewe for the year. This would appear to be an average return that might be expected with the prices as they prevail at present.

An objection that might be raised to having a flock of sheep on every farm is that many farmers know little or nothing about sheep. Usually, however, in every district there are one or more experienced men who will be glad to assist the beginners. There is also a plentiful and easily available supply of good literature on sheep raising that can be secured free. By starting with just a few sheep experience can be acquired with small risk.

Coyotes and dogs are the most dangerous enemies with which the sheepmen have to contend. The latter animals can be controlled by stricter municipal by-laws. A substantial bounty for wolves, together with community effort aimed toward their destruction, will in some measure control the coyote menace. But wherever coyotes and dogs are giving trouble the sheep should be enclosed at night in a dog-proof corral.

The climate in the West is favorable for sheep raising; there is an abund-

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by cow testers, creamery-men, college and dairy authorities, and leading dairymen all over the world; and which have proved to last from 15 to 30 years.

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ance of suitable feeds. The rapid increase in weeds calls for sheep to aid in their control. No animal can be more cheaply housed. They grind their own feed and they produce two crops a year—mutton and wool. Even though the price of mutton and wool should decrease the farmers of the prairies cannot afford to be without these animals that have long been said to possess the golden hoof.—M. J. Tinline.

#### Horse Business Picking Up

"I am looking for a moderate increase of trading in the horse business," said R. E. Wilson, of the Horse Division, Dominion Livestock Branch, to a Guide representative. "About 400 horses have been shipped from the prairies for lumbering in the past season. Bradshaws, of Winnipeg, have also shipped 12 car loads to the Point St. Charles market, Montreal. One of these loads was purchased at Oak Lake, Manitoba, and consisted of medium-sized 1,350 to 1,500-pound animals, which in Montreal are considered big horses. This lot is typical, I think, of the ones going East."

"I don't wish to be interpreted as predicting anything in the nature of a boom, because even in this same Montreal market the sale barns have a plentiful sprinkling of horses for which the demand is draggy, owing to the mildness of the season which has retarded bush work. The East offers a market, but a limited one, the peculiarities of which should be well understood by a person who contemplates shipping."

"Alberta has sent twelve loads East, mostly to Montreal and Quebec, but three loads went to the pulp mills at Ste. Ursule. Some of the smaller horses were purchased on the prairies at \$75 each. The present rate on horses going East is about \$1.24 per cwt. on a 20,000-lb. car from Alberta points to Montreal. That makes the transportation charges come to about \$26 or \$28 per animal."

"There are at present no prairie horses going West over the mountains, but I expect there will be some activity in the Crows Nest Pass later on in

the winter. I also look to see some Alberta horses going to Vancouver soon as there has been some enquiry from that source."

Mr. Wilson was asked if horses had been holding their own with trucks for city haulage of late years, and his answer was in the affirmative. "There is no use hiding the fact," said he, "that horse prices current during the last few years have not done much to encourage raising horses. This is being reflected in the use of stallions. There has been a 50 per cent. decrease in stallions in the prairie provinces during the last six years. The old horses are serving out their terms of usefulness, but are not being replaced."

Mr. Wilson stated that the Dominion government policy for promoting breeding clubs is enjoying a gratifying amount of patronage in spite of adverse conditions in the horse market. "We always have one trouble which I expect will be repeated again in 1924. Farmers leave their stallion club organization to the last minute every year. They would be well advised to get their organization completed early in the year, make early application for a stallion, and then the matter of choosing the animal can be looked after at the spring shows."

Swanton Haggerty, the well known Saskatchewan Clydesdale breeder, adds to the testimony of others in the contention that only the best horses pay for the cost of raising. Mr. Haggerty states that buyers came to his stable and took his whole surplus at prices which left him a little profit, and this at a time when misfits in the nearby stock yards were practically unsalable.

#### Our Cover

This week's cover shows the Prince of Wales sitting on the top of a corral fence with his next door neighbor, George Lane, one of the foremost figures in Canadian ranching circles. Next week's Guide will contain a story entitled, Renfrew and His Neighbors, by another one of them. Don't miss it.



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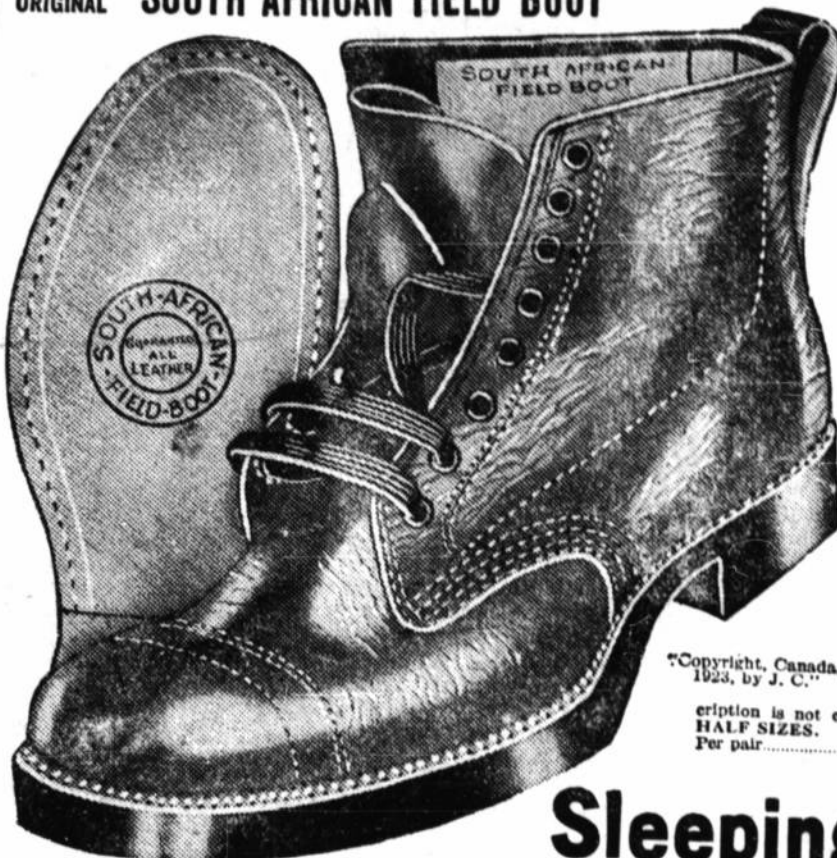


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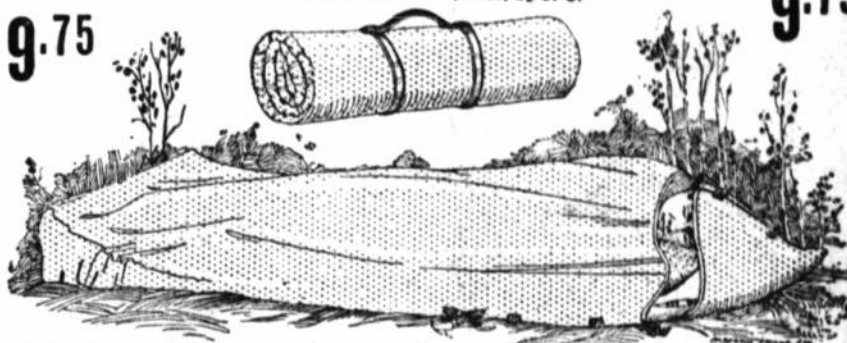
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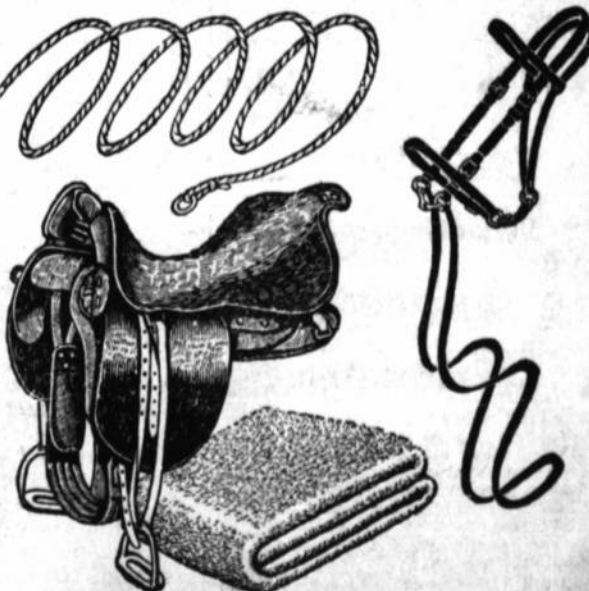
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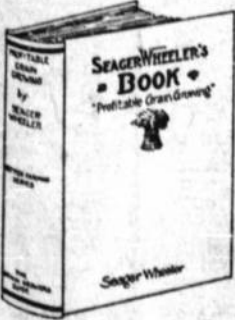
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# Peas as a Field Crop



A small field of Arthur Peas on Rosehurst Seed Farm, Cayley, Alta.

This is on the farm of John W. Lucas, who has been a repeated winner at the International Seed Grain Show.

**T**HERE are several crops that present themselves for consideration to the farmers of Western Canada. Brome grass yields well, is a very palatable feed relished by all animals. Western Rye grass also yields well, producing a fair quality of hay, though not so palatable as Brome grass.

Unfortunately these and similar crops cannot take the place of clover. They yield a good tonnage, but they are poor in protein, the constituent so valuable for balancing the average stock ration. Peas and all legumes are rich in protein. They draw the principal constituent of this protein-nitrogen from the air, store it up in the leaves and stems as feed for farm animals, and in the roots and stubble as food for succeeding crops.

Legumes benefit the farmer in two ways: They enable his stock to get greater benefit from the non-legumes he uses as feed, and in addition add the most expensive and often the most essential element of fertility to his soil.

Such crops as Brome and Western Rye grass draw heavily upon the nitrogen content of the soil and are just as exhausting as wheat and all other cereal crops. The legumes—alfalfa, clover, peas, beans—are important soil builders. Alfalfa and clover are the best legumes we have. Next to this peas are the best legume for feed purposes that can be grown in Western Canada, and yet one we hear the least about.

### As a Practical Crop

Field peas will grow anywhere in Western Canada if soil conditions will permit. Like alfalfa, clover and all other legumes, field peas will not grow on sour soils, but will flourish in any soil that is not sour, if reasonably drained and in a good state of cultivation. As a hay crop, peas grown with oats will yield from two tons and upwards of fine succulent hay, relished by all stock. Peas are annuals and will thrive well on any soil that other cereal crops grow on. The seed should be planted from one and one-half inches to three inches deep, and at the rate of two to two and one-half bushels per acre, depending upon the size of the pea—smaller peas sown lighter, larger peas sown heavier. Peas for fodder purposes do best grown mixed with oats. The pea is a clinging plant. The pea sends out its tendrils which will wind around the oats, allowing the pea plant to stand up well and then can be cut with the ordinary grain binder. When planted by itself it lays flat upon the ground, or nearly flat, having nothing but neighboring pea plants to cling.

A pea harvester is used to harvest the crop or a mower with lifting irons attached to the guards. An ordinary hayrake can be used to pull the crop if allowed to ripen. When oats and peas are grown together for fodder or ensilage purposes the proper time to cut it is when the oats are in the milk or the peas half developed in the pods.

### Corn and Peas Together

From experience, we find that peas planted with corn for fodder purposes do not do so well, is harder to harvest and is wasteful. Corn, being of slower growth than peas, and yet planted at the same time, in rows, is not high enough on average years to afford support to the pea plant when it sends out its tendrils for support, and instead of clinging to the corn as it should, lays flat or nearly so on the ground. Constant cultivation is needed for successful corn growing. Peas that lay on the ground are generally in the way of cultivator or corn plow. Peas planted with corn and not supported by the corn is difficult to harvest. When harvesting the corn for ensilage, the peas that lay flat on the ground are generally passed over with corn binder, and very little benefit derived from the peas.

I have observed during my 19 years of pea growing in Alberta, that peas and oats give the best results for hay and silage purposes. Peas are very prolific when left for seed, yielding 15 to 60 bushels per acre, depending upon the season. We have found that the Marrowfats, Golden Vine, Prussian Blue and Arthur, do well under our conditions.

Peas ground or mixed with other grains are fine for fattening all kinds of stock. It is an established fact that the pea-fed hog is the standard of the world, surpassing the corn-fed hog. Pea straw fed to all kinds of stock is readily eaten, and as a roughage is particularly liked by sheep. Peas are a splendid crop to grow if the land is later to be sown to alfalfa as the pea plant inoculates the soil, leaving its bacteria so necessary for the successful growth of alfalfa or clover, the bacteria of the pea being similar to that of the clovers and alfalfa.

To those who have had no experience with pea growing it would be best to inoculate peas before seeding. Culture for this purpose can be obtained from any of the agricultural colleges.—John W. Lucas.

### Field Peas in the West

The World's Big Hay, Grain and Livestock Show for 1923 is now a matter of history, and Western Canada has again given an enviable account of itself. Of course, all the papers, both farm and news, are devoting their big headlines and most space to the winnings made by wheat and oats, but in the writer's opinion the little White Albertan Field Pea that has given so good an account of itself for the past four years should not be crowded entirely into the background.

In this hardy variety of pea the Field Husbandry Department of the University of Alberta has given the farmers of the West a valuable additional grain not only in the exhibition hall but one that fits nicely in rounding out his varieties in mixed farming.

In old Ontario the farmers a few decades ago considered peas equal or

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superior to corn for fattening hogs, as well as being valuable when cut green for fodder. Early in the writer's experience on an Alberta homestead, he tried out field peas, Arthur, Early Britain and Prussian Blues, but frost got all of them. Three years ago, however, he decided to try another small lot of the White Albertans, and was very much pleased with the results as they were hardy, resisting early spring frosts, and so early maturing as to escape fall frosts.

Of the Golden Vine variety the vine is fine, peas small, white and very rich. Sown at the same time as wheat they are almost or quite as sure. As to frost, the critical time is just as the pods are forming, and as July frosts are exceptional there is comparatively little risk at this period. As the peas are small two and one-half bushels of seed per acre gives a good stand.

Aside from exhibition purposes these peas are probably most valuable as a hog feed, although there is quite a demand for this small variety in the States for feeding pigeons. Chickens are very fond of them, also they are an excellent table pea for soup as the flavor surpasses the commercial split pea.

There is considerable loss in harvesting as they shatter badly. A pea attachment to the mower probably gives the best results. The threshing machine splits them badly and labor is too scarce on most western farms for threshing by hand, and lack of barn floor space doesn't permit using horses.

In the writer's opinion the hog man can well afford to thresh enough each year to seed a patch conveniently located on which he could turn a bunch of hogs and let them do the harvesting, and, believe me, none of the peas will go to waste. If so desired, turn the hogs in while part of the vines are still green, with most of the peas matured before heavy frosts, and there will be little left after the hogs are through.

Peas can't fight weeds, therefore clean ground is necessary. Many shell in harvesting, but pigs will make use of these if given a chance. Dean Howes, of the University of Alberta, Prof. Cutler and their associates, deserve much credit in giving to the farmers of northern Alberta this valuable addition to their field crops.—W. C. W., Helder, Alta.

### Protect the Lawn in Winter

A well-beaten path made across the lawn in winter will probably work permanent damage. The grass may be killed and the soil so compacted that grass seed sown thereon the next season will not thrive. Such a path will generally be obvious for a number of years. A "cow path" is distinctly an unattractive feature on a lawn. The lawn sign of summer, "Keep off the Paths that are Making" may well be heeded throughout the year.

Another sin against a lawn is to flood it for the purpose of making a skating rink. A body of ice over the lawn in winter is almost certain to completely kill the grass. The grass will not tolerate for a long time a covering which precludes movement of air.

Young lawns should have a covering of snow. A wind-swept lawn, blown free of snow in winter, is likely to lose much of its young clover. Brush spread about tends to deflect the wind and holds the snow.—W. R. Leslie.



# Organization News

Matter for this page should be sent to E. Higginbotham, secretary, United Farmers of Alberta, Calgary; A. J. McPhail, secretary, Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association, Regina; Donald G. McKenzie, secretary, United Farmers of Manitoba, Winnipeg.

## Saskatchewan

### Convention Date Altered

At a meeting of the Central executive of the S.G.G.A., held at the Central office, December 20 and 21, an alteration was made in the date of the annual convention.

It was originally announced to be held over the week end as last year, from Friday, January 25 to Tuesday, January 29. It has been found necessary, however, to make an alteration in the date, and it will now take place on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, January 23 to 25 inclusive, the meeting place being St. Andrew's Church, Moose Jaw. It is hoped that all delegates will bear this alteration of date in mind when making their arrangements to attend.

### Shellbrook Constituency Convention

George Luck, constituency chairman, presided over the Shellbrook constituency convention, and opened the meeting by giving an account of the work done during his term of office. A. H. Wason, was unanimously elected as constituency chairman for the ensuing year, and the following committee was appointed: R.M. of Rozilee, Mrs. Wason, G. S. Canfield, J. W. Payne; R.M. of Canwood, B. Valkenburg, W. A. Benson, Mrs. Mair; R.M. of Leask, Jas. Barrie; R.M. of Royal, no nomination; R.M. of Blaine Lake, no nomination; R.M. of Shell River, no nomination; unorganized territory, W. H. Johnson.

Resolutions calling upon the executive of the S.G.G.A., to acknowledge suitably the great services rendered to the association by E. A. Partridge, of Sintaluta, and extending the thanks of the association to the retiring officers were adopted.

A. J. McPhail, the Central secretary of the S.G.G.A., then addressed the meeting at considerable length, touching upon the work of the S.G.G.A., and advising the members not to be discouraged at the period of depression through which the association was passing, as it was common to all organizations of a social, political or fraternal nature. He also discussed the proposed amalgamation with the Farmers' Union, pointing out some of the differences between the two organizations and the benefits that might accrue from concerted action and finished up by discussing very carefully the question of grain marketing, pointing out the difficulties which had confronted the wheat pool committee in their attempt to get organized in time for the 1923 crop.

### Convention Resolutions at Plessis

Resolutions on the Hudson Bay Railway and Immigration were adopted at the last meeting of the Plessis G.G.A., held on Saturday, December 8, for presentation to the annual convention. They read as follows, viz.:

"Resolved that we urge the Dominion government to complete the Hudson Bay Railway at the earliest possible date."

"Resolved that we are opposed to the bringing of immigrants into the country for agricultural settlement until such time as conditions are made more tolerable for those already upon the land."

### Commendable Membership Increases

Some commendable and welcome increases are shown in the membership of several locals which have remitted fees during the last few days. Crocus Hill shows an increase from 36 to 42; Shallow Lake from 21 to 32; Thunder Creek from 48 to 53; Adler from five to ten; Craik from 81 to 108; Flaxcombe from 17 to 29; and Ardath from 25 to 35. The increase at Craik is all the more commendable as 1922 also showed an advance of 21 members over 1921.

Among other locals sending in fees are Abermule, \$17; Bueclough, \$12; Egerton, \$12.25; and Wilkie, \$10. These are very slightly below last year's total, and a very little extra effort before the

convention will place them ahead of 1922.

### Complete H.B. Railway

The following resolutions have been adopted by the members of the Last Mountain Valley G.G.A., of Strasbourg, Sask., viz.:

"Resolved that we ask the executive to take steps to have the Dominion Grain Act so amended as to make it legal for the owner of a portable elevator to work for hire in loading cars."

"Resolved that we urge upon the Saskatchewan government that they take the initiative in co-ordinating public opinion in the three prairie provinces for the purpose of bringing to the early attention of the Dominion government the vital necessity to every western interest that the Hudson Bay Railway be completed, and the port of Nelson fully equipped to handle our traffic, without further exhibition by the Dominion government of the perfidious indifference from which the people of Western Canada have suffered so long in this matter."

Hector L. Roberge, who, we believe, was the youngest delegate present at last year's convention, has again been selected to represent his local, the Eagle Valley G.G.A., at the coming convention at Moose Jaw.

## Alberta

### Big Valley-Munson Convention

Resolutions were passed at the annual convention of the Big Valley to Munson U.F.A. District Association, held in the Rowley Hall, on December 18, disapproving of the suggested alteration in the constitution making membership dues date from the time of payment; approving the reduction of provincial constituencies to 32; asking the government to take action to enforce the destruction of weeds; urging that a copy of the Canada Grain Act be posted in all elevators and railway stations for public perusal; and recommending the formation of a local pool signers' association in the district.

Newly elected officers are: Harry Stickney, president (re-elected); Mr. McIlvride, vice-president, and Frank Edgell, secretary.

### Lethbridge Convention

Eighty-five delegates and large numbers of visitors attended the annual convention of the Lethbridge Federal Constituency Association, held in Lethbridge, on December 19. The election of officers resulted as follows: L. H. Jelliff, M.P., president; E. Bennion, Magrath, and Mrs. F. King, Lethbridge, vice-presidents; W. McKenzie, K. D. Johnston, Jos. Workman, and A. H. Steckle, directors.

Resolutions were passed favoring the inclusion of a local option clause in the new liquor legislation; strongly endorsing the wheat pool; fixing the medical fees in maternity cases at \$20 plus mileage; favoring the reading of the Bible in schools; advocating legislative changes making it necessary for legal action to be begun in the judiciary district in which the defendant lives; endorsing the western grain route; opposing the inclusion of the personal covenant in mortgage legislation; asking for a terminal storage elevator at Lethbridge; advocating changes in the banking system to provide government long-term farm loans department; and urging the construction of a branch railway to the Del Bonita district.

Addresses were given by H. W. Wood, dealing with the progress of the wheat pool, and by L. H. Jelliff, M.P., on the last session of parliament, and the banking system.

### Victoria Provincial Convention

The annual convention of the Victoria Provincial Constituency Association was held in Lament, on December 12. It was attended by about 60 delegates and visitors.

Officers were elected as follows: A.

Lunan, president; Mrs. J. Hare and Wm. Franchuk, vice-presidents; A. L. Pearce, F. C. Smith, Mrs. C. E. Whittaker and Steve Askew, directors.

In his annual address Mr. Lunan gave a report of the wheat pool convention, which he had attended as a delegate, and made a strong appeal to the farmers to keep up their organization in all its branches.

### Taber Convention

At the annual convention of the Taber Provincial Constituency Association, held in Taber, on December 19, to which about 20 locals sent representatives, the following officers were elected. Jas. F. Johnson, Barnwell, president; H. E. R. Davis, Enchant; and Mrs. J. W. Evans, Raymond, vice-presidents; I. D. James, Bow Island; A. P. Hempel, Retlaw; M. E. Wilmot, East Lethbridge; Jesse Wilde, Welling; and L. E. Holman, Taber, directors.

C. Jensen, of Magrath, one of the wheat pool trustees, gave an informative address on the difficulties met with and the progress made in establishing the pool. L. H. Jelliff, M.P., and Lawrence Peterson, M.L.A., gave comprehensive reports on the work of the last sessions of the federal and provincial parliaments.

Resolutions were passed expressing confidence in President Wood, of the U.F.A., in Premier Greenfield and his administration, in the financial and other arrangements made to handle this year's crop by the wheat pool; endorsing the efforts of the provincial government and other organizations toward establishing the western grain route; urging amendments to the judicial procedure whereby actions must be commenced in the judicial district in which the defendant resides. Urging, with regard to the Tax Recovery Act, that provision be made for notifying the interested parties of record of any pro-

cedure to be taken under the act was passed.

### Okotoks Provincial Convention

Keen interest in all U.F.A. matters was shown by the delegates and visitors who attended the annual convention of the Okotoks Provincial Constituency Association of the U.F.A., held in De Winton, on December 15. G. G. Coote, M.P., for Macleod, and Hon. Geo. Hoadley, gave interesting addresses on the political situation at Ottawa and at Edmonton.

After accepting the resignation as president of H. S. Simpson, and expressing appreciation for his splendid work while in office, the convention elected in his place, G. Heaver, of De Winton. H. H. Carr, Okotoks, and W. R. Barker, Okotoks, are vice-president and secretary.

### Coronation Convention

Attendance at the annual convention of the Coronation Provincial Constituency Association, was somewhat smaller than was anticipated, as many farmers were taking advantage of the fine weather to haul grain; but the interest shown by the delegates made the convention all that could be desired.

The association lost during the year, through death, one of their most progressive and energetic members, E. G. Gardiner, who had been secretary since its organization. A vote of condolence to Mrs. Gardiner and family was passed. H. E. Spencer, M.P., and G. N. Johnston, M.L.A., gave reports of the parliamentary sessions.

Officers were elected as follows: C. C. Wilson, Sedalia, president; H. Wilson, Federal, vice-president; H. K. Fielding and F. J. Doherty, directors. Mr. Doherty is also the secretary. A director for the eastern division is still to be elected.

Continued on Page 22

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## How Much Has Germany Paid?

Continued from Page 2

may fairly assume, after allowing for all possible exaggerations, that the measure of the burden thrown on Germany by the deliveries is not less than half the figure claimed, that is to say £395,000,000, as against the £241,000,000 credited under the terms of the treaty. No one, I think, could put the cost to Germany, as distinct from the value to the allies (which in some cases is less than nothing), at a lower figure than this.

Our table is then as follows:

	£
Credits with the Reparation Commission (less Spa coal advances).....	391,000,000
Cash and goods supplied to armies of occupation.....	70,000,000
Ceded property in Upper Silesia .....	50,000,000
Addition for world market price of coal.....	70,000,000
Addition for real value to Germany of various surrenders .....	154,000,000
	<b>£735,000,000</b>

I think that this can be regarded as a conservative estimate of the burden thrown on Germany under these heads.

We now come to certain items, which, under the terms of the treaty, do not count at all towards reparation, but are none the less a charge on Germany. The most important are the following:

1. The sums owed to Germany by her former allies.
2. The German colonies and state property there situated.
3. State property in Alsace-Lorraine.
4. Restitutions in replacement of specific allied property removed by Germany from invaded territory.
5. German ships seized in enemy ports.
6. German private property seized and liquidated abroad.
7. Payments by Germany in discharge of private debts.

The face value of the first item is £850,000,000. But whilst it represents a real loss to Germany, its market value is undoubtedly nil. I know of no reliable estimate of items 2, 3, 4 and 5. On the basis of partial data I should put these items, but without much confidence as to the accuracy of the figure,

somewhere round £100,000,000 altogether.

Items 6 and 7 are of a different character. The proceeds have been applied to the discharge of German private debts, and to this extent they represent, not a net loss, but a liquidation of liabilities. A net burden has been thrown on Germany only to the extent that the assets have not been applied to discharge the liabilities of her own nationals, or have been sequestered and in part unapplied (as in the United States), or have been sold at a price less than their value to their German owners as a going concern. Nevertheless, apart from this net burden, the fact that this amount of capital previously lent to Germany has been called in, thus diminishing her working capital abroad and her liquid reserves against emergencies, has clearly diminished her capacity to make foreign payments during the period since the armistice almost as much as though it were a net loss. The figures are very large. The German government's estimate of the value of the property liquidated abroad is £585,000,000; and the amount of cash payments under the clearing house system is £30,000,000. The esti-

mate of the value of the property liquidated appears too high if it is intended to represent its present value, but probably not too high as a measure of its pre-war value.

Summing up, I am of the opinion that the financial cost to Germany of her efforts to meet her treaty liabilities and of her surrenders under the treaty between the date of the armistice and the date of the occupation of the Ruhr has exceeded £1,000,000,000; and if we include the sums which she has had to find in this period to discharge private debts, the figure reaches £1,300,000,000. In addition to this, Germany's pre-war investments in Russia, Turkey, and Austria-Hungary, and her war loans to her allies, have been rendered valueless by the course of events; and there has of course, been an enormous loss of "good-will" in her business connections and organization.

Allowing for the change in the value of money and for the relative wealth and population of France in 1871 and Germany in 1919, the figure of £1,000,000,000 represents a real burden on Germany per head more than double that thrown on France by her payment of £200,000,000 after the Franco-German war. If we remember that Germany had fought the most exhausting war in history for four years, and had lost, one way and another, the bulk of her foreign assets, whereas France had her previous resources of foreign investments and the like almost intact, it is clear that the German effort to pay has represented enormously more than the equivalent of the French indemnity—as indeed we can easily judge, after the event, by the comparative effects on the wealth and prosperity of the German people in 1923 and the French people in 1873.

In face of these facts, the broad outlines of which are not open to dispute, it is an outrageous thing that certain sections of the press should be filled with charges that Germany has paid next to nothing, that she has evaded her liabilities, that by bluff and chicane she has cheated her creditors. These statements and suggestions are untrue.

## The Big Muskeg

Continued from Page 7

### CHAPTER VII.

#### "In the King's Name!"

But he worried over the situation all night, and in the morning Molly saw with alarm that he was in a feverish condition. He should never have left his bed, and the journey seemed impossible.

"I've got to go, Molly," was all Wilton could say.

"Then," she said with sudden decision, "I shall go with you."

He tried to laugh at her, but she insisted.

"I shall go, Will," she said. "You can't travel alone. Your men may be faithful enough, but it is my right to go. And you'll never get to the meeting without someone to take care of you on the way. That's my condition. Promise me—or else I'll lock the store door, Will, and I've got a padlock that even you couldn't force."

Molly seemed to be animated by a resolution as feverish as his own. Jules Halfhead had not fulfilled his intention of absenting himself, probably on account of the storm, which had made the security of the store seem preferable to life in the forests. He was faithful to the factor and had never deserted him in need. He could take care of him during the four or five days of her absence.

"And Kitty will be glad to have me stay with her," said Molly. "I'll be a comfort to her in her grief. And I feel that I ought to go, if only for Kitty's sake. I know she hasn't made many friends in Clayton yet. And she is always writing to me to come."

Wilton was forced to yield.

"But you must make sure that Jules will stay," he said.

"He'll understand. He'll stay," answered the girl. "He's never run away when I was gone to Moose Lake or Winnipeg."

Molly went up to the factor's room with the faint hope of reaching some understanding—of plumbing her father's feeling against Wilton and ever-

coming it.

"Mr. Carruthers is getting ready to



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go," she said. "He is very ill. He is too weak to travel alone, but he must take Joe Bostock's body back to Clayton."

"Oh, aye!" said the factor, sneering. "He needs care and attention during the journey. So I am going with him."

The factor sat up in bed, transfixing her with a look of fury. "You, lass—you will go with Wilton Carruthers to Clayton?" he cried. "Ye winna come hame, then! Mark me, now, I've done with you for aye!"

"Would you have him die in the snow?" cried the girl, with almost equal anger.

"Aye, I'd have him die in the snow, like the dog that he is!" he answered. "If he'd died with Joe Bostock, the world could ha' spared the twa of them. Molly, lass, ye winna go!" he pleaded, with a sudden change of tone. "Think of your good name in Clayton! I have na reared ye to have ye desert me in my old age and sickness, Molly."

She turned quickly away to keep her tears from falling. "Jules can take care of you for a few days, father," she said. "It's not as if you were helpless. And his life is at stake."

"And mebbe he'll die if you don't stay with him when ye get to Clayton, eh, lass?" rasped out the factor in withering scorn.

That scorn nerved her again; to his weakness she had almost yielded. She went down and dressed herself for the journey. She helped Wilton on with his mackinaw, and put a caribou robe in the sleigh. Then, while the men were harnessing the dog, struck by a sudden thought, she stopped and began to examine the tracks of the snow-shoes about the edge of the portage. They ran confusedly in all directions, for the marks had been made by seven different pairs—those of Bowyer and Chambers and their Indian; those of Wilton and his two half-breeds; those of the deaf-mute.

Of these Wilton's were blurred and almost indistinguishable, made by his dragging feet as she pulled him up from the swamp. But, even had the vague purpose in Molly's mind been clear to her, there would have been no need to examine those. The rest were all similar in one respect—none had a broken string.

Wilton and Molly had arranged that he was to travel in the sleigh, to which a second had been attached, bearing Joe's body in a roughly-made coffin constructed by the men. The dogs were harnessed, and they started.

It was little more than fifty miles to Clayton. Travelling along the cleared road, the distance could be quickly covered easily in two days. Half-way, at the head of the narrow-gauge line, was a cache, in charge of a keeper, who also guarded the supplies and material in the sheds. Here the first night was to be passed; the second evening should see them at their destination.

The dogs ran well, the weather was clear and fine, and Wilton felt well enough to walk a good deal. Their dinner was almost like a picnic. By evening the railhead had come into sight in the distance, the empty camp, the long sheds with the miscellany of supplies, the locomotive shops, and the great ballast pits beside the line.

Here, too, began the telephone poles, extending into Clayton; but the line-men's rough work had not been proof against the weight of snow, and the wires hung in festoons from post to post. The installation had hardly been made before work was abandoned, and there was no connection now at Clayton.

As the dogs climbed the last hill there came yelping from the cleared way behind them. Looking back, they perceived a sled approaching. Two men walked beside it, and the dogs, sighting Wilton's, yelped in challenge, which was taken up in an outburst of answering growls.

The sled drew it toward them, and the men resolved themselves into sergeant and a constable of the mounted police. Wilton had stopped his dogs, but the new-comers did not halt, and went on, with curt greetings, toward the cache.

A little surprised at their abruptness, Wilton let the sled precede his sleigh. As the dogs were eager for their meal,

he sent Papillon ahead with them, and followed more leisurely with Molly. They arrived at the cache a few minutes after the half-breeds, to find the two policemen waiting for them, while the two men were unharnessing the dogs. Andersen, the old Swedish caretaker, was standing beside Joe's coffin with a stunned look on his face. The policemen were not of prepossessing appearance. The elder man, the sergeant, was about forty years of age. He had a fair drooping moustache, a slight cast in one eye, and an expression of sullen insolence. His companion, a short, stocky young fellow, looked hardly less surly and evidently ill at ease.

"Evening, Mr. Carruthers," said the sergeant brusquely. "I'm Sergeant Peters, and this is Constable Myers. That's Joe Bostock's body you're bringing in, I guess."

Wilton was staggered. "Yes, it's Joe," he said, gulping. "How did you get the news?"

The policemen exchanged glances. Peters smiled scornfully under his long moustache. "It's known, all right. It's our job to know them things," he answered. "I'm taking charge of it—to bring it in for the inquest."

"But you are not from Clayton,"

said Wilton, who, of course, knew all the members of the small force of police that was stationed there.

"We're from the Pas," answered the sergeant shortly.

From the Pas! That explained how the sled had come along the road behind him. Bowyer must have discovered the fact of Joe's death in some manner, and had probably spread the news. Wilton surmised that Jules Halfhead had somehow managed to indicate the fact to him. But it seemed impossible that Bowyer could have reached Cold Junction, his construction camp and the head of his telephone posts, even by this time, much less have been able to obtain a detail of police from the Pas.

The constable solved his problem. "We was on patrol," he vouchsafed. "And we met parties who told us about Joe Bostock having met with an accident, and that you was bringing him in."

"That'll be all!" snapped the sergeant, looking angrily at Myers, who subsided promptly. "I guess this young woman is Molly McDonald?" he continued.

"This lady is Miss McDonald," said Wilton, angrily. "And you'll keep a civil tongue in your head, sergeant."

Peters looked him up and down in-

solently, and for a moment or two the men faced each other in an aggressive attitude. Then the sergeant, sneering, swung on his heel: Wilton did not know what to make of his attitude, for the police were always friendly. At first it occurred to him that the sergeant might have taken him, in his bush outfit, for any laborer, but then he remembered that he had addressed him by name. In any event, it would be impossible to ask him who had informed him of Joe's death.

The constable, who was evidently under strict orders, seemed more inclined to talk, but glanced nervously at his superior. Wilton finally ascribed the man's manner to the nervousness of new hands at the business—at any rate, in that district. Andersen's room was placed at Molly's disposal, and after Wilton had seen to her comfort he went outside the shack.

The dogs were yelping and snarling over their fish from the cache. Papillon had just finished feeding them, and Wilton thought Peters had been speaking to him. Probably the sergeant was trying to obtain information. A momentary surge of anger made him clench his fist; then he shrugged his shoulders and went into the shack where Andersen was preparing the meal. Peters

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and Myers had already shaken down their blankets on the floor, and Jean Passepartout had laid down Wilton's, and the caribou robe, but the Indians were not there.

The Swede came up to Wilton, holding a pan of sizzling brown potatoes.

"I can't believe it, Mr. Carruthers," he said. "Only last week he passed through here with you. Gosh, he was a fine man, Joe was! How did it happen? And you're hurt yourself, sir," he continued, glancing at Wilton's arm.

"Joe was shot at my side in the woods. The same bullet hit me. I don't know who fired the shot. But I'm going to know," said Wilton, grimly.

"My God, it's all up with the line yet!" muttered the old man, withdrawing to his fire.

Wilton looked at Molly, who had come out of the bedroom and was standing near him. Andersen's exclamation had gauged the whole situation. Wilton felt physically nauseated by the heat in the shack, the unpleasantness of the situation, and a recurrence of pain in his wound.

"I wish we could get on, Molly," he muttered. "I don't know what to make of this business; but I don't believe that Joe's death is known in Clayton yet. If these men were on patrol, of course, they could have got here the way they did, but who told them? Bowyer couldn't have been lurking out in the snow all this time. Well, it'll all come out," he added, wearily. "But I hate to pass the night here, with those two men keeping watch over Joe, and accompanying us in with him in the morning."

He went over to Andersen. "Do you happen to know either of those fellows?" he asked.

"I never saw them before, sir," said the old man. "I guess they ain't from these parts, from the looks and the ways of 'em."

"There's a new lot come up from Yorkton lately. Maybe they shifted these to the Pas, when they sent some of the Pas men on to Clayton," Wilton reflected. He turned to Molly. "Anyway, we'll start bright and early," he said. "I suppose we'll have to have those fellows' company as far as Clayton. But I wonder—" He paused. "I wonder whether Joe would forgive me for leaving him in the hands of strangers for a while, if it were for Kitty?" he mused.

The two policemen came in, looking surly and uncommunicative as ever. After a hurried meal, eaten almost in silence, they swept back the tablecloth, pulled the oil-lamp into their corner, and produced a deck of cards. Molly said good-night to Wilton and went into the caretaker's room. As the door closed behind her Wilton saw the two men look after her. The constable whispered something to the sergeant, and both chuckled.

Wilton's blood was boiling, but he controlled himself. This was for Kitty, and his debt to Joe.

At last the policemen put the cards

away, and prepared to lie down. Andersen was already snoring upon the floor. The halfbreeds, however, had not come in, and Wilton, going to the stables, found them curled up among the huskies.

"You fellows had better come into the shack," he said, "unless you want to freeze."

Papillon refused. "Them damn dogs will fight each other," he said, "if we don't stay here."

"Just as you like," said Wilton.

It was not unusual for rival teams of huskies to attack each other, but such antipathy generally developed from the first, and the dogs seemed contented enough. He went back to the shack and lay down, turning over in his mind what he was projecting, but he was utterly worn out, and fell asleep before he was aware of it.

When he opened his eyes it was already dawn. The policemen were dressed and standing outside the shack, conversing in low tones. Andersen was peeling potatoes for breakfast. Wilton heard Molly moving within the room, and his doubts fell from him. He had been upset by the surliness of the two men; he had had vague suspicions not justified in fact. He determined to put his proposal to them.

He walked over to the sergeant, who was just re-entering the shack with his companion.

"I suppose you fellows are thinking of starting at once, after breakfast," he suggested.

The sergeant looked him up and down. "That's about the size of it," he growled. "Got any objection?"

Wilton resolutely ignored the affront. "I've got important business in Clayton, affecting Mr. Bostock's interests," he said. "It is very important that his death should not be known there until mid-day to-morrow."

The constable, who was leaning against the doorpost, chewing the end of a twig, started slightly. Peters fixed Wilton with his crooked stare.

"Rather a nifty thing to propose, Mr. Carruthers!" he sneered.

"Maybe, but it's a business matter affecting Mr. Bostock's wife," said Wilton, loathing himself for making the request, but nerving himself to do so by the thought of Kitty. "If the news of his death reaches Clayton before the time I've mentioned, some people who are antagonistic to Mr. Bostock's interests will jump at the chance to turn it to account. It will mean a heavy loss to Mrs. Bostock. You've come a long way, and you could quite reasonably wait till afternoon on account of the dogs. That will bring you in before noon to-morrow. And—if you can see your way to it, you two won't be the losers."

The sergeant eyed him more insolently than ever. "So that's the program, is it?" he answered. "Well, keep your mind easy. The news won't be known in Clayton to-night, nor to-morrow neither. We ain't going to Clayton."

"You're not, eh?" Then where the devil are you going?" cried Wilton, nettled almost beyond endurance at the man's demeanour.

"We're taking Joe Bostock's body back to the Pas," retorted the sergeant. "That's what we come here for."

"The Pas? This isn't in the Pas jurisdiction!"

"It ain't, eh? Perhaps it's in yours, then?"

"See here," cried Wilton, in exasperation. "Clayton has its own police detachment, as you know perfectly well. Your route doesn't lie in this direction. Joe Bostock's home's there. He's going to be buried there. And his body isn't going to be dragged here and there about the country by a couple of fool policemen. I'll make things pretty warm for you if you try any game like that."

"You will, eh?" sneered the sergeant, with a side glance at Myers. "Got any sort of special pull in Clayton?"

"Enough to put the lid on you."

"Well, I guess you won't be going into Clayton yet awhile," jeered Peters. "You're coming back to the Pas with us and Joe."

Wilton realized that Myers had come up quietly upon the other side of him.

He had the bewildered feeling of being in a trap.

"What the devil do you mean by that?" he shouted.

The sergeant thrust his face forward into his own, grinning maliciously.

"It means that I arrest you for the wilful murder of Joe Bostock," he answered. "And I warn you, in the king's name, that any statement you make will be used against you."  
(To be continued next week).

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### BAD PATCH OF ECZEMA ON CHIN

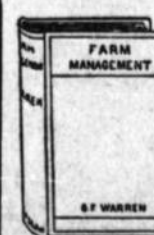
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THE GRAIN GROWERS' GUIDE  
WINNIPEG, MAN.



# The Countrywoman

## Mainly About Colds

**T**HERE are a great many diseases, for example, pneumonia, pleurisy, catarrh, tonsillitis, bronchitis and many others we might name, which have their beginning in a cold, and yet too many of us regard a cold as something which is to be treated lightly. If we took one-quarter the pains to prevent the spread of colds that we do with other diseases which are not nearly so common we might prevent a great amount of sickness and many of the serious complications which set in after a cold has broken down the individual's resistance to illness.

Quite frequently we see that when one member of the family contracts a cold it travels around the remainder of the family, because of carelessness or lack of thought of simple little precautions that would have gone far towards preventing its spread, with its consequent inconvenience and discomfort.

When a child or adult takes a cold he should be allowed to sleep alone, so that other members of the family will not catch the cold from the germs from his breath. It may seem a bit of a hardship to deny a child the regular good-night kiss, when he is suffering from a cold, but if mother or some older member explains carefully to him that while he has the cold he must avoid kissing others, he will understand that he is thus helping them keep well, he will take a greater pride in seeing that others do not catch the cold from him. In this same way it can be explained to him that he must be very careful to always cover his mouth and nose with his handkerchief when he coughs or sneezes and never in any case to spit on the floor.

Sometimes we hear it said that there is more illness in a warm winter than a cold one. If this is at all true it is because people will take greater chances in weather that is moderately warm than in that which is real cold. They are less careful of getting their feet wet and in changing into dry clothes when they come into the house. They do not dress as warm and are in consequence more apt to take a chill at a sudden change of temperature. This winter has been a remarkably warm one, and the doctors in the particular corner of the world in which we happen to live tell us that there has been very little illness so far, and attribute it to the fact that people are out-of-doors more than they would be if it were cold, that they keep their windows and doors open more.

Fresh air will do much towards keeping us healthy and in our cold winter days we are apt to shut ourselves up too tightly in a warm house and to neglect taking a little walk or exercise in the fresh air or to let a little of it inside the house. Cold air is not necessarily fresh air, and even though the rooms are chilly, doors and windows should be opened occasionally to let in the pure air from outside. The longer we go without taking cold the stronger resistance we build up in our bodies to cold. The more often we take one the more we weaken that resistance and open possibilities for undesirable complications which mean in most cases suffering and expense. We can avoid colds if we wish to and are willing to take the proper precautions. Let us try to keep ourselves and our families as healthy as possible for this winter at least.

## New Bureau of Home Economics

A few months ago the secretary for agriculture in the United States announced that a new bureau would be opened in his department for the benefit of home-makers. This was

welcomed by women's clubs of all kinds, because they felt that existing agencies are insufficient to cope with the numberless problems of the home. Quite recently the Bureau of Home Economics has commenced work with Dr. Louise Stanley in charge. She brings to her new work many years of experience with which to back up her extensive professional knowledge.

When outlining the proposed policy of the new department, Dr. Stanley announced that "any definite program must develop slowly for lack both of funds and of available personnel." However, it has been decided that the staff will give considerable attention to the economic phase of the homemaker's life which has been the most neglected one heretofore. Besides working out suitable budgets for families in different walks of life, attempts will be made to estimate how much women in homes contribute to the national income. These questions are ones which need the attention of the keenest minds in any nation.

In order to help women to buy clothing and fabrics in the most economical way, the staff at the new bureau will make important investigations concerning the adulteration of fabrics and the wearing qualities of cloth and garments. As the purchasing of household equipment means investment of hard-earned money, studies of various types of furnishings will be carried on by experts. Food problems of various kinds will occupy the time of other home economics specialists.

From the tentative outline there is no doubt that the recently established bureau will render valuable service to the women of the United States. Canadian homemakers will watch with interest its development for even though our government cannot see its way clear to provide similar assistance at present, a time will come when there will be a possibility of having a department for women at Ottawa. Fortunately, discussion costs no money, so this subject may well be given a place on the program of women's clubs. Intelligent public opinion which is one of the most valuable assets of a community is what we need in times like these.

## The U.F.W.M. Convention

Women delegates who attend the convention of the United Farmers of Manitoba which is to be held in Winnipeg, January 8, 9 and 10, are assured of some very interesting meetings. This year, following out the plan carried out in other conventions, with the exception of last year, there will be separate sessions for the Women's Section. These special sessions occupying Wednesday afternoon and Thursday morning will deal with the business which is of particular interest and concern to women. There will be the regular reports of standing committees. Miss Mabel Johnson, of Brandon, will give the report on Public Health and Social Service. Mrs. Howell, of Boissevain, will present the report on Immigration. Mrs. S. E. Gee, of Virden, will give the report on Legislation, and the Educational report will be presented by the president, Mrs. J. Elliott, in the

absence of the educational convener, Miss J. Straing, of Dauphin.

One very promising feature of the program as arranged for this year is the amount of time allowed for discussion of rural problems, association business and the discussion of resolutions. If other conventions held in the past can be criticised at all adversely, it is perhaps that they have attempted too much, and did not have sufficient time to properly discuss the many important matters which came before them. This year's program, if the delegates come well prepared with problems and ideas for club work, should result in great benefit to many local organizations and should afford the delegates the opportunity of becoming well acquainted with one another and with the officers in charge.

The evening meetings of the main convention have been so arranged to be of interest to both men and women. Dr. Martin's address on Tuesday evening, on the subject of Bovine Tuberculosis, will be of particular interest to women. Opportunity will be given for the women to be present at sessions of the main convention which deal with the most important business of the association.

Every local organization of the U.F.M. should make it a point to see that some women from its community attend the convention. Every Women's Section should see that its full quota of delegates is in attendance, and that there is proper provision for the presenting of a report of the meetings on their return home. We need all the inspiration we can get these days to keep us from dropping into a rut of routine and there is nothing quite like a convention for inspiration and the gaining of new ideas. Even if you are not a delegate you will appreciate and enjoy the convention.

## Public Health Nurses in Alberta

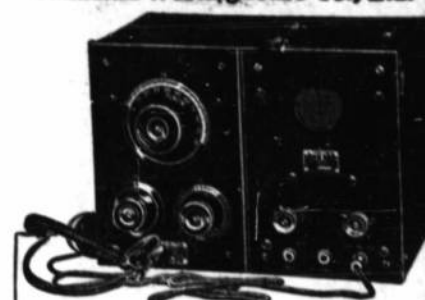
The province of Alberta has now nine public health nurses and five district nurses. In the rural districts the public health nurses examine school children, conduct child welfare conferences and do home visiting, advising mothers how best to take care of the health of their children. The nurse is supplied with a car which she uses to cover the territory under her charge. There has been a slight change in the method of financing public health nurses during the last year or two. Where formerly the government assumed the responsibility of financing the salary and expenses of the nurse now the districts enjoying the benefits of the nurses services are asked to provide 50 per cent. of the salary and expenses of the nurse.

The district nurses serve in outlying districts where people are long distances from adequate medical facilities. They are financed by the provincial government. The five district nurses in Alberta are located at: Griffin Creek, Halcourt, Slave Lake, Yeoford and Pendryl. These women work far from a doctor and carry on in the way of first aid, obstetrical and medical work. They face great hardships and have to make long journeys in all kinds of weather and under all kinds of conditions. Their visits mean a great deal to the wife of the settler living in the outlying district who has no one else to turn to in case of illness or accident.

This year the nurses are conducting classes in first aid and home nursing for girls and women which are proving very popular. During the past summer 12 babyconferences were held in the constituency of Taber, in which a public health nurse was in charge with full equipment to weigh, measure and

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examine the babies brought by mothers. One nurse gave her full time for a month lecturing on nutrition in various parts of the province.

The grip that music has upon the hearts and minds of the people is evidenced in the millions of concert and opera-goers of the civilized world. But it is still more surely evidenced in the homes of tens of millions of families. The musical homes, and the homes in which music in some or other shape or form is a home amusement, are legion. And the explanation is easily found in the incomparable power of music to provide one of the common interests which draw the members of a family together for common pleasure.



A visit of a public health nurse to an Alberta school



# Mother!

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Tongue Shows if  
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Ask your druggist for genuine "California Fig Syrup" which has directions for babies and children of all ages printed on bottle. Mother! You must say "California" or you may get an imitation fig syrup.

## Free Book About Cancer

The Indianapolis Cancer Hospital, Indianapolis, Indiana, has published a booklet which gives interesting facts about the cause of Cancer, also tells what to do for pain, bleeding, odor, etc. A valuable guide in the management of any case. Write for it today, mentioning this paper.—Advertisement.

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## The Open Forum

"Let truth and falsehood grapple. Who ever knew truth put to the worse in a free and open encounter?"—Milton

The Guide assumes no responsibility for the opinions expressed by correspondents in this department. It is requested that letters be confined to 500 words in length, that one subject only be discussed in a letter and that letters be written on one side of the paper only, and written very plainly (preferably in ink).

### Manitoba Wheat Pool

The Editor.—At a meeting of the Erickson local of the United Farmers of Manitoba, held on December 8, the matter of a Manitoba wheat pool was carefully considered. The meeting was of the opinion that a wheat pool is desirable for the province of Manitoba, but felt that some changes might be made in the proposed system.

The following resolutions were passed by the Erickson local:

1. "That a provincial or inter-provincial wheat pool be formed based on local wheat pools organized and controlled by the farmers."

2. "That each grain marketing centre should organize a local grain pool and enter into contract with the farmers of the district for the handling of their wheat, oats, barley, rye and flax."

3. "That each local pool in turn enter into contract with the provincial or inter-provincial wheat pool for delivery of its wheat to the provincial or inter-provincial wheat pool."

4. "That the provincial or inter-provincial wheat pool be controlled by a board of directors, elected by representatives from the local pools, and that the said board be responsible to the local pools."

5. "That local pools withhold an agreed amount per bushel on grain purchased for the purpose of acquiring sufficient elevator accommodation, and that the provincial or inter-provincial wheat pool withhold a fixed amount per bushel from the local pools for the purpose of providing terminal elevators."

6. "That flour mills owned or operated by farmers or local pools be permitted to purchase wheat direct from the local pool, and that the local pool be released from its obligation to make delivery to the provincial or inter-provincial pool of any grain so purchased by such flour mill."

It was felt that the provincial or inter-provincial wheat pool should be based on local organization for the reason that in order to be a success it must originate with the farmer so as to have his full support and co-operation. On looking into the co-operative organizations of other countries where co-operative marketing has proved so successful it is invariably the case that

the local organizations of the producers are responsible for that success. We cannot hope for a lasting and successful system of marketing if that system originates and is controlled in any other manner than by the local organizations of the producer.

To obtain this desired condition we would suggest that each marketing centre form its local pool, managed by a board of directors, the said local pool to enter into contracts with the farmers of its district for the handling of their grain, and be permitted to deduct an amount per bushel from the pool grain handled, for the purpose of acquiring the necessary local elevator accommodation. We are not in favor of local pools contributing to a general fund for the acquiring of elevators outside the local district except in the case of terminal elevators, which we think should be acquired by means of a deduction from the local pool by the provincial or inter-provincial pool. That is that each local pool should own its own elevator and the provincial or inter-provincial pool would be responsible for and own only the terminal elevators. If the provincial or inter-provincial pool is to be responsible for the acquiring of local elevators we feel that an injustice might be done to some communities in the accommodation given them. The local community knows best its own requirements and ought to provide for them itself.

With regard to the organization of the provincial or inter-provincial pool we believe that each local pool should send representatives to a meeting of the provincial or inter-provincial pool, and at that meeting select a board of directors to control and manage the provincial or inter-provincial pool.

There would be a considerable saving as a result of having local pools as the Central organization would be relieved of a good deal of the detail work by the local pool. The provincial or inter-provincial pool would not require to organize the farmers or canvass for their contracts. This would be done by the local organizations. Nor would the Central management be obliged to arrange for and supervise the operation of local elevators. The Central body would merely deal with the local unit instead of the individual farmer.



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Under the present proposed contract the farmer is bound to sell all his grain to the pool. In cases where the farmers own local flour mills we think that provision should be made for the local pool to sell direct to such flour mills, and not be bound to deliver to the pool for the reason that a local mill should mill local grain.

These are a few of the views of this local, that we think the farmers of Manitoba should consider.—O. W. Strand, secretary Erickson local U.F.M.

### Bank Reform

The Editor.—The published annual bank reports, The Merchants Bank memories, W. C. Good, M.P.'s letter, and the general newspaper comment on our banking system, all seem to lead us to the one conclusion, viz.:

That government inspection, or any other kind of inspection, was of little or no guarantee to the depositors or stockholders, and provided no excuse for government guarantee. That government guarantee of deposits in ordinary banks is utterly unsafe, impractical and impossible.

That the Dominion government should issue and benefit by all the circulation notes.

That the Dominion government P.O. Savings Bank Department, should receive all deposits offered, at 5 1/2 per cent., thereby directly paying to the people an additional 50 million dollars, without costing the public a single cent in taxation or otherwise, giving absolute government security to the depositors.

That all Canadian banks are altogether too large, as the Merchants Bank investigators reported, and that no one man, or

Continued on Page 21

### NICHOLAS NUTT'S BAGPIPE BAND

In a newspaper, Nicholas Nutt read of how fat people could reduce to music. Mr. Nutt's elephant, Tiny, was so big and fat and hungry that Nicholas had great trouble in getting enough food for him. Nicholas thought if he could only get Tiny to reduce he would not have to feed him so much. Sandy McPherson offered to loan Nicholas his bagpipe. Nicholas thanked Sandy, took the bagpipe and played for Tiny. As Nicholas played, Tiny would shiver and shake. Now it happened that Tiny worked so hard that he became hungrier than ever and Nicholas worried and worried over how he was to get the money to buy enough food. It occurred to Nicholas that if he would play for the little Doo Dads they might give him pennies with which he could buy peanuts for Tiny. Nicholas took the bagpipe in his arms and started out. At the corner Nicholas turned into Main Street and Wha-ha, Ow-w-w, Whe-e-e—Owie-e-e wailed the bagpipes. Every puppy began to howl. For Christmas, Sleepy Sam had received a little donkey. This day Sleepy had hitched the donkey to his hot-dog cart and was just ready to begin selling his wares when Nicholas turned into Main Street. The little donkey was scared and away he went. Off went the lid of the steaming kettle and over went Sleepy Sam into the pot. Doc Sawbones was sure that someone was being killed and he rushed to the window with his blunderbuss. Roly and Poly were almost paralyzed with fright. The prosperous salesman was standing beside Mrs. Malone's cottage. Open came the door and the prosperous salesman was in the way. Out rushed Mrs. Malone with a big bucket of water. Surely the little Doo Dad with the big tall hat will get a drenching. I am afraid Nicholas will be disappointed when he starts passing his hat for the pennies.





# The Farmers' Market

Office of the United Grain Growers Limited, Winnipeg, Man., December 28, 1923.  
**WHEAT**—Markets during the week have remained practically stationary. Trade has been of small proportion, with little interest in either the buying or selling end. Offerings from the country are reduced considerably over the holidays, and there has been a little investment buying of May wheat, which undoubtedly has helped to hold the market. Stocks at Fort William increasing rapidly with little all rail movement East and heavy unloads. Cash market very dull indeed, with spreads on all grades practically unchanged from a week ago.

**OATS**—Prices have been steady during the week, with very little activity shown in this grain. Country offerings continue to be fairly liberal and more than sufficient to care of requirements and stocks at terminals are increasing. There is a fairly good enquiry for the lower grades of oats, but the top grades are not wanted.

**BARLEY**—There has been considerable activity during the last few days on December. Barley and prices have advanced around 10 cents from a week ago. December Barley has been heavily oversold, and shorts have been forced to advance prices in order to cover up.

WINNIPEG FUTURES									
	Dec. 24 to Dec. 29 inclusive.	24	25	26	27	28	29	Year Ago	Week Ago
Wheat—									
Dec.		91	92	92	93	91	109		
May		97	97	98	98	97	113		
July		99	99	100	100	99	112		
Oats—									
Dec.		36	36	36	37	36	46		
May		40	40	41	41	40	49		
July		41	41	41	41	41	47		
Barley—									
Dec.		59	60	63	63	55	56		
May		56	56	56	58	55	60		
July							59		
Flax—									
Dec.		198	198	198	200	197	210		
May		205	204	205	207	204	209		
July		205	205	205	208	205	208		
Rye—									
Dec.		64	64	64	66	64	83		
May		70	70	70	71	69	86		
July							85		

**LIVERPOOL PRICES**  
 The Liverpool market closed as follows: December, 9s 1½d; March, 8s 8½d per 100 pounds. Exchange, Canadian funds, quoted at \$4.43½. Worked out into bushels and Canadian currency, the Liverpool close was: December, \$1.21½; March, \$1.15½.

**MINNEAPOLIS CASH PRICES**  
 Spring wheat—No. 1 dark northern, \$1.09½ to \$1.11½; No. 1 northern, \$1.08½ to \$1.11½; No. 2 dark northern, \$1.07½ to \$1.09½; No. 2 northern, \$1.06½ to \$1.08½; No. 3 dark northern, \$1.03½ to \$1.05½; No. 3 northern, \$1.02½ to \$1.04½. Winter wheat—Montana—No. 1 dark hard, \$1.08½ to \$1.13½; No. 1 hard, \$1.05½ to \$1.12½. Minnesota and South Dakota—No. 1 dark hard, \$1.05½ to \$1.07½; No. 1 hard, \$1.04½ to \$1.05½. Durum wheat—No. 1 amber, 92½c to \$1.02½; No. 1 durum, 90½c to 97½c; No. 2 amber, 90½c to \$1.00½; No. 2 durum, 89½c to 96c; No. 3 amber, 88½c to 98½c; No. 3 durum, 86½c to 94½c. Corn—No. 2 yellow, 64c to 64½c; No. 3 yellow, 63c to 63½c; No. 2 mixed, 63c to 63½c; No. 3 mixed, 62c to 62½c. Oats—No. 2 white, 39½c to 39½c; No. 3 white, 38½c to 39c. Barley—Good to fancy, 57c to 60c; medium to good, 63c to 65c. Rye—No. 2 63½c to 64½c. Flaxseed—No. 1, \$2.37½ to \$2.39½.

**BRITISH CATTLE MARKET**  
 Glasgow reports market still closed to store cattle, quotations not available. The cattle shipped on the S.S. Lakonia are being slaughtered at the landing place. Three hundred and eighty-two Canadian cattle were sold for slaughter at Merklands wharf on Friday, December 14. Prices were mostly 6½c to 8c per lb., live weight. Eleven hundred Irish cattle sold under similar conditions on Monday last, made from 7½c to 8½c.  
 London sales of Irish dressed sides were made from 15c to 16½c per lb. No Canadian sides on offer.

**SOUTH ST. PAUL LIVESTOCK**  
 Estimated receipts at the stock yards today were: Cattle, 2,500; calves, 1,500; hogs 24,000; sheep, 1,000. Cars 360.  
 Cattle—Beef steers, range, \$4.50 to \$11.75, bulk \$5.50 to \$7.50; cows, heifers \$3.00 to \$10, bulk, \$3.50 to \$6.00; canners and cutters, \$2.00 to \$3.00, bulk, \$2.25 to \$3.00; bulls, \$3.00 to \$4.25, bulk, \$3.25 to \$4.25; veal calves, \$3.50 to \$9.50, bulk, \$4.50 to \$9.00; stock feeding steers, \$2.50 to \$7.25, bulk, \$4.50 to \$6.00.  
 Hogs—\$6.00 to \$6.70; bulk, \$6.60 to \$6.70.  
 Sheep—Lambs, \$8.50 to \$12.75; ewes, \$2.00 to \$7.25; wethers, \$5.00 to \$8.50; yearlings, \$7.50 to \$11; bucks, \$2.50 to \$3.00.

WHEAT PRICES									
	Dec. 24 to 29 inclusive.								
Date	1 N	2 N	3 N	4	5	6			
Dec. 24	CLO	SED	ISTM	AS	DAY				
25	CHR	ISTM	AS	DAY					
26	91	88	83	76	68	66			
27	92	89	84	76	68	66			
28	92	89	84	77	69	67			
29	93	90	85	78	70	68			
Week Ago	91	88	83	76	68	66			
Year Ago	109	108	105	100	93	86			

Cash Prices at Fort William and Port Arthur  
 December 24 to December 29, inclusive

Date	WHEAT		OATS		BARLEY		FLAX		RYE
	Feed	2 CW	3 CW	Ex Fd	1 Fd	2 Fd	1 NW	2 CW	
Nov. 24	CLOSED								
25	CHR	ISTM	AS	DAY					
26	64	36	33	33	31	28	59	54	47
27	64	36	33	33	31	28	60	55	46
28	65	36	33	33	31	29	63	58	46
29	66	37	34	34	32	30	63	58	47
Week Ago	64	36	33	33	31	28	55	50	46
Year Ago	77	47	43	43	41	38	55	51	47

## BRITISH BACON MARKET

Prices of Canadian, Danish and Irish bacon are officially reported unchanged. Other sources report the market steady to firmer and about 2s stronger on Canadian. American 64s to 68s, steadier. Danish killings reported at 35,000 head.

## WINNIPEG LIVESTOCK

The Livestock Department of the United Grain Growers Limited, report as follows for the week ending December 28, 1923:

Receipts this week: Cattle, 388; hogs, 2,746; sheep, 39. Last week: Cattle, 2,543; hogs, 6,145; sheep, 410.

The usual light receipts which always occur during the Christmas and New Year holiday week has the effect of making it very difficult to give an intelligent summary of the market or prospects for the future. The run this past week has been exceedingly light and the result is that at the present moment the demand for butcher cattle of all kinds is very good, and a moderate run of cattle following the New Year will undoubtedly meet with a good trade. However, should the run become heavy, prices will work lower, as very little change exists in the matter of outlet over what it was before the holidays. Present quotations for best butcher steers are from 5c to 5½c; medium qualities 4c to 4½c; common steers, 2½c to 3c. Best butcher cows 3c to 3½c; medium kinds 2½c to 3c. Prime butcher heifers from 4½c to 4½c; medium kinds, 3½c to 4c. Breedy stock heifers 2½c to 2½c. Best dehorned feeders 4c to 4½c; medium kinds, 3½c to 4c. Best stocker steers, 3c to 3½c. Choice veal calves are selling from 4½c to 6c; stock calves, 2½c to 3c.

Hog quotations are very unsteady and while yesterday thick-smooths sold at \$7.75 it would not be safe to quote them to-day at over \$7.50 with a 10 per cent. premium over this price for select hogs.

Best lambs are bringing from 10½c to 11c; and best sheep from 5½c to 6½c.

Shippers from Saskatchewan and Alberta should bring health certificates covering cattle shipments. This is very important.

The following summary shows the prevailing prices at present:

Prime butcher steers.....	\$5.00 to \$5.50
Good to choice steers.....	4.00 to 4.50
Medium to good steers.....	3.50 to 4.00
Common steers.....	2.50 to 3.00
Choice feeder steers.....	4.00 to 4.50
Medium feeders.....	3.50 to 4.00
Common feeder steers.....	2.25 to 2.75
Choice stocker steers.....	3.00 to 3.50
Medium stockers.....	2.50 to 2.75
Common stockers.....	1.75 to 2.00
Choice butcher heifers.....	4.25 to 4.75
Fair to good heifers.....	3.00 to 3.50
Medium heifers.....	2.50 to 3.00
Choice stock heifers.....	2.00 to 2.50
Choice butcher cows.....	3.00 to 3.50
Fair to good cows.....	2.50 to 3.00
Cutter cows.....	1.50 to 2.00
Breedy stock cows.....	1.50 to 1.75
Canner cows.....	.75 to 1.00
Choice springers.....	40.00 to 50.00
Common springers.....	25.00 to 35.00
Choice veal calves.....	5.00 to 6.00
Common calves.....	2.00 to 3.00
Heavy bull calves.....	2.00 to 2.50

## The Tax on Grain Futures

At the last session of the Manitoba legislature an act was passed imposing a tax upon trading in grain futures on the Winnipeg Grain Exchange. On the ground that the tax was virtually one upon inter-provincial trading, and, consequently, beyond the power of the provincial legislature, the government of Saskatchewan petitioned the government at Ottawa to disallow the legislation. The Dominion government referred the matter to the Supreme Court of Canada, and according to an announcement made by Hon. R. W. Craig, attorney-general for Manitoba, the case will come before the Supreme Court on February 5.

# Ship Your Grain

to

## UNITED GRAIN GROWERS LTD

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Lougheed Building.  
 Calgary

Get the fullest possible protection.  
 Thousands of Farmers find safety  
 and satisfaction in selling their  
 grain through this Farmers' Company.

## GRAIN PRICES

are low and the grain growers' expenses are no less so that it becomes imperative that every grain grower should endeavor to dispose of his grain in such a way that he will get every fraction of a cent there is in it.

We can dispose of your wheat, oats barley, rye and flax in an intelligent and satisfactory way. We handle strictly on commission, advance money on shipping bills, look carefully after grading, obtain best prices and furnish prompt settlements.

If you have grain to sell it will pay you to write to us at once for price prospects, shipping bills and full information as to how you can get the most out of your grain. We also handle investment and hedging orders in grain futures.

**THOMPSON, SONS & COMPANY, Established 1884**  
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## CONCRETE for Small Jobs

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Thousands of Farmers own a Concrete Mixer, a real necessity on every farm where buildings are being erected or repaired.

**THE LONDON IDEAL CONCRETE MIXER No. 3** is made to operate by hand-power with one man, or with Gasoline Engine. It pays for itself in ten days' use. Prices on request. Send for Pamphlet G.

**LONDON CONCRETE MACHINERY CO. LTD., DEPT. X, LONDON, CAN.**  
 World's Largest Manufacturers of Concrete Machinery

## The Open Forum

Continued from Page 20

one set of directors, could begin to properly look after them.

That if the banks were all smaller, and did business on their own stockholders' money, and credit balances, where the local directors would be well acquainted with the probable borrowers and customers, there would be no danger of their making such loans as are reported in the Home Bank case.

It looks as though the depositors money was considerably used in risky loans.

A thousand local banks in Canada, would be very much better than our 15 general banks with 5,000 branches, and the people would be \$50,000,000 ahead, and all local applications for loans would be considered by local boards of directors, and every man would get all the credit his local circumstances, his financial standing, and his honesty of character would warrant.

In this way, all worthy borrowers would be accommodated, and all savings bank depositors would be absolutely safe, and the local depositors have \$50,000,000 more money to spend, instead of that amount being wasted in extravagant buildings, extravagant administration, and extravagant loans.—W. O. Sealey, 61 Hunter Street, W., Hamilton, Ont.

## Cash Grain Tickets

The Editor.—I see your advice in The Guide of December 19, 1923, regarding the stamp tax on cash grain tickets, and there I see that you are contradicting yourself in that advice, so I would ask you to read it over. You say that the responsibility of affixing the stamp on the receipt stands against the man who issues the receipt, and in the next item you state that the farmer must affix a two cent stamp on every ticket over ten dollars. I would like to hear from you in regard to this.—Erik Bystedt, Willowbrook, Sask.

[The person who issues a receipt is the one who signs it. The farmer signs the cash grain ticket as the receiver of the value, and he is therefore the issuer of the receipt, and must affix the stamp in payment of the tax if the amount is \$10 or over.—Editor.]

## Leave Germans in Germany

The Editor.—Re Mr. Tallack's letter in your issue of December 19, 1923, would beg a little space to express my views on the subject he opened.

Mr. Tallack proposed bringing 100,000 Germans to Canada to be of commercial use. Now right here let me say we have 100,000 too many Germans here now. Goodness knows we need no more foreigners. We have our municipalities burdened down now by paying their taxes and hospital bills.

I would suggest that we conscript either the Germans in this country or their wealth (which has accumulated 100 per cent. during the war) to help finance the puddle we now find ourselves in. We had this curse forced upon us by Germany; now let Germany suffer as well as us. Why bring our late enemies here, feeding and clothing them, instead of leaving them to face hardships of which they should have abundance? It's a well known fact that while we were fighting for humanity's existence aliens here waxed fat. In conclusion, I might say it also would be a good plan to rush our draft evaders in along with our proposed conscripts, as they are all tarred with the same feather.—Wm. Geo. Studham, Dugald, Man.

## Our Constitutional Government

The Editor.—When monster petitions for legislative action are ignored, control of the government is out of the people's hands.

In Saskatchewan we have, in short, not a popular or democratic, or representative government, but an irresponsible one. The connection between the government and the people, which should enable the people to control their government is lacking; save such as consists in the privilege of taking part in an election every four years.

All the redress, all the people can do, is to overwhelm them in the quadrennial election by a stunning defeat. Even such a rebuke is not a sufficient safeguard for Canada's welfare. With the lack of power to call the government to account, goes also the total lack of power to compel it to act, or even to suggest that it should act.

So that constitutionally, as soon as an election is over, the divorce of the government from the people (for four years) is practically complete. Everybody knows that under the old two-line party system, few candidates are ever elected to our governments who are not chosen either by privileged or prohibitive interests, which dominate the party machines—the coteries.

The controlling forces in the two old parties are (1) the source of its campaign funds, and (2) the officials who dominate the funds, dominate the party machine; which machine controls the premier, who selects his cabinet, and rules it. This executive gives the orders of the machine of privilege or prohibition to its party legislators, and they must obey or resign. It is thus with all party candidates also. All are practically bound to obey plutes who control the election money. This is the instrument that rules the old line parties under the British constitution. Your readers know this is so. I am not sure but no government would be better than this counterfeit of government by privilege and puritanical prohibition of self-styled uplifters, for all semblance of responsibility that attaches to the formal



## New Lamp Burns 94% Air

Beats Electric or Gas

A new oil lamp that gives an amazingly brilliant, soft, white light, even better than gas or electricity, has been tested by the U. S. Government and 35 leading universities, and found to be superior to 10 ordinary oil lamps. It burns without odor, smoke or noise—no pumping up, is simple, clean, safe. Burns 94% air and 6% common kerosene (coal oil).

The inventor, T. D. Johnson 579 McDermot Ave., Winnipeg, is offering to send a lamp on 10 days' FREE trial, or even to give one FREE to the first user in each locality who will help him introduce it. Write him today for full particulars. Also ask him to explain how you can get the agency, and without experience or money make \$250 to \$500 per month.

## MANITOBA WINTER FAIR BRANDON

MARCH 3 to 7, 1924

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**Horses, Beef Cattle  
Sheep, Swine, Poultry  
Boys' Fat Calf Competition**

Generous special prizes for car lots and groups of five Steers, Draft Horses, Lambs, Swine and Dressed Poultry offered by the Dominion Livestock Branch.

Write for a Prize List

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## HOMEWORK

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## RAW FURS

If you want to get the right and best market price for your furs, ship to us.

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process of election, seems to disappear completely once the candidate has been returned.

Thus we have under our constitutional system, not a popular, or representative or democratic government, but an irresponsible one, with a fine air of disregard.

This accounts for the worse than contempt which so many of the people have so obviously developed for the thing, called by the old line parties, democracy: which has worked out under our British constitution into a privileged plutocracy. Neither has the way the governments of the provinces worded the referendum ballots or used this instrument, contributed to honest test, or towards economy.

Under this old line system, the chief accomplishments have been increased taxation—but exempting the big profiteers, and Canada cannot any longer bear this undue burden of an outworn constitution of a two-party system.

There must be reduction of the tariff, drastic reduction of expenditure until debts are paid. Monopoly of money must be stopped from foreign speculation and be made available for rural credit. Taxation of the producers and the worker—element of consumers must be cut in two. The regulation of transportation rates must be solved more equitably than the boards of commissioners have ever yet acted.

The final requisite is, that there can be no healthy political life in Canada or in any country that does not take its politics seriously. The people and not privileged interests must control their own governments.

Canada is suffering from 'the undue effects of an outworn, an unfit and very unpalatable constitutional system, both federal and provincial, which fails to produce revenue, and which is driving the people out of the country. Even the federal income tax is a failure—and our provincial treasurers tell us the heavy taxes are unavoidable, and that the Hon. Finance Minister Fielding, is too ill to attend next session.

In conclusion, may I urge old line Liberals and Conservatives to cease their indifference and take their politics seriously. It is partisanship of by-gone days that has made Canada too expensive a country for farmers to live in—and just the same in the United States.

However, perhaps it is useless to urge the people to take their politics seriously as long as the control of governments is out of the people's hands; so the only hope is to express a popular demand for such an amendment of our constitution that will prevent privileged and prohibitive coteries dominating our government.—Frederic Kirkham, Saltcoats, Sask.

### A. R. McMaster's Itinerary

A. R. McMaster, M.P. for Brome, arrived in Winnipeg last week, en route to Calgary, where he commences a lecture tour of the three prairie provinces. "My visit," Mr. McMaster stated to a representative of the press, "is not under the auspices of any particular political party, but realizing the present serious economic condition of the country as a whole, I considered it my duty to see for myself the position of affairs in this section."

Mr. McMaster's itinerary is as follows: Calgary, January 3; Lethbridge, January 4; Moose Jaw, January 5; Regina, January 7; Winnipeg, January 9; Yorkton, January 11; Saskatoon, January 14; Edmonton, January 16.

### The Stockman's Parliament

Continued from Page 9

too rough. The inspectors caught shippers "both coming and going." Between these two classifications as allowed by the inspectors there was only a narrow margin. These matters, however, had been righted by a new agreement which was left to Mr. Marshall to explain.

#### Chilled Beef Dead Issue

Dr. Grisdale said that two years ago the matter of promoting a chilled beef trade was seriously mooted in Western Canada. That had been given the quietus by the speech of J. S. McLean, at last year's meeting of the W.C.L.S.U., and by a shipping experiment carried out by the Dominion Experimental Farm branch. Prices of chilled beef in Great Britain this last summer bore out the belief previously entertained that there was nothing in this business for Canada. In the investigations carried out by the Australian government last summer it was found that frozen beef which packers loaded into boats at Australian ports for one penny a pound cost two pence a pound unloaded at London, and five pence retail. What the grower got may be guessed at.

On the subject of retail prices Dr. Grisdale recounted his experience in following a shipment of Ontario peaches through the markets to the consumer. Crates of 24 peaches were selling for 7s 6d at Covent Garden wholesale market. He found prices to the consumer

all the way up to 48s per crate—from six to seven-fold increase.

Commenting on the opportunity for expansion in the bacon trade, Dr. Grisdale stated that an increase of Canadian shipments would not cut the price in England, but would cut down the amounts taken from Denmark and the United States. The only thing in the way of a more secure footing in the British bacon market was volume of trade. We can benefit from bettered quality on all other livestock products without increasing the output, but with bacon it was different. Speaking of price levels he laid it down as a general rule that bacon and dairy products were less speculative than beef and mutton. Notwithstanding, the experimental farm director is a great believer in the farm flock. On two different occasions during the course of the convention he forwarded reasons for flock increase.

### New Agreement with British Ministry

Duncan Marshall then gave a historical survey of the negotiations to date concerning the removal of restrictions against Canadian cattle on the British market. No one can be more entertaining than Alberta's ex-minister of agriculture. Under his lively narrative, a matter of legal tangles and backstairs parliamentary warfare pulses with all the human emotions animating the contending parties.

A settlement has been found for the difficulties that arose this summer, which were as bad in their effect as the embargo itself. And this is what the settlement amounts to in practice: inspectors no longer have the right to classify imported Canadian animals; a store is a store if anyone is willing to feed him for 28 days, and animals purchased for that purpose may be moved inland. Moreover, and this is equally important, butchers may purchase fat cattle at the ports of landing and move inland for slaughter.

Mr. Marshall predicted a big demand for good feeders in the spring. This year's turnip crop in Britain has been unusually bountiful, and foot and mouth regulations have cut down the usual Irish supply of cattle for consuming it. Some of this crop will be available for feeding well on into hot weather.

The last morning of the convention was given over to a discussion of tuberculosis eradication. The Manitoba delegation, proud of its area-free policy, and the B.C. delegation, in defense of its policy of compulsory testing in dairy herds, were on the side of extending tuberculin testing. The other delegates, particularly those from Alberta, brought some startling but little-known facts concerning the relationship between bovine and human tuberculosis, and the fallibility of all known tests for detecting the disease. In the light of this evidence it would seem wise to call a halt to the further destruction of valuable animals until the veterinarians in favor of condemnation upon reaction are more sure of their ground.

At the election of officers, G. H. Hutton, of Calgary, was elected president for the fifth consecutive year. The vice-presidents—one for each province—were elected as follows: British Columbia, W. T. McDonald; Alberta, G. F. Herbert; Saskatchewan, F. H. Auld; Manitoba, John Strachan.

### Resolutions

Resolutions on the following subjects were passed: asking for an investigation into the condemnation charges deducted at stock yards; endorsing the government's scale of penalties for adulterating feeding stuffs, and asking for its continuance, or at least the right to participate in framing any contemplated changes; asking for reduced transportation on animals moving from West to East; asking for continuation of federal and provincial grants to stocker and feeder shows; asking for an investigation into possibilities of Oriental market; asking for an educational campaign to check present large losses from bruising caused by animals from farm to abattoirs; asking for a continuation of the investigation into bacon marketing, which, it is hoped, will lead eventually to grading the finished product; opposing increasing express rates and asking for general decrease. Next year's meeting will be held in some Alberta city.

## Organization News

Continued from Page 15

### Manitoba

#### U.F.M. Convention Call

The twentieth annual convention of the United Farmers of Manitoba will be held in St. Stephen's Church, corner Portage Avenue and Spence Street, Winnipeg, on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, January 8, 9 and 10, 1924.

The U.F.W.M. will meet with the general convention. Provision is made, however, for them meeting separately on Wednesday afternoon and Thursday morning, in order to discuss matters of special importance to the farm women. Every local association is entitled to send one delegate for every ten members or fraction thereof. Delegates will be entitled to all the privileges of the convention and to vote on all questions brought before it. Other members of the organization will be entitled to attend as visitors, but not to introduce motions or to vote. Regulations regarding the convention will be found on pages 5, 15 and 24 of the U.F.M. constitution.

Credential forms are being mailed to every U.F.M. local secretary for the delegates from his local. Each U.F.M. secretary should see that every delegate—man and woman—is supplied with his or her credential. Every delegate before leaving home should secure his credential certificate duly signed by the local president and secretary. This credential certificate, with his standard railway certificate and one dollar convention fee, is to be handed in by the delegate at the convention office on arrival. The convention fee is to cover cost of badges, reports supplied and other expenses of the convention itself.

#### Railway Arrangements

The method of handling transportation will be as follows: Each delegate will buy a one-way ticket and secure from the local railway agent at the same time, a standard certificate, or receipt for the amount of money paid. Passengers boarding trains at flag stations should retain duplex ticket issued by conductor, which will be good as a receipt. These will be turned in to the office of the convention when the delegate registers. The office will be open for registration at St. Stephen's Church, Winnipeg, on the evening of Monday, January 7. Delegates who arrive in good time that evening would do well to register so as to save time and crowding on the following morning.

Each delegate will be furnished with a badge to be worn during the convention and a card which is his receipt for the convention fee and the standard certificate. The principle of pooling fares will be in operation as for some years past, the idea being that those who are far away will not be out of pocket for railway fares any more than those near the city. When the pool rate is struck, delegates will be able to arrange for return transportation. Those whose fare is less than the pool rate will be required to pay the additional amount to make up that rate, and those whose fare is greater will be refunded the difference. If a delegate travels by more than one railway, standard certificates should be secured with each ticket. Only one-way tickets should be purchased. The return will be arranged for with the convention office.

#### Alberta Grain at Chicago

In view of the remarkable showing made by Alberta grain at the International Show, at Chicago, this month, when 44 prizes were obtained, it is interesting to note how this province has come to the front during the past few years in this regard.

It was in 1919 that the first showing was made. Since then the record has been as follows:

1919—Four or five prizes.  
1920—Nineteen prizes, two grand championships, oats and field peas.  
1921—Thirty prizes, three grand championships in oats, peas and alfalfa.  
1922—Thirty-five prizes, three grand championships, oats, barley and peas.  
1923—Forty-four prizes, with three grand championships in wheat, oats and red clover.



## Plymouth Rocks

## CAWDOR FARM WHITE ROCKS

(Bred for Higher Egg-Production)

## BREEDING COCKERELS

From selected hens, flock mating.....\$4.00 each  
From special pair matings, \$5.00 and \$7.50 each  
Express prepaid.

J. ROUTLEDGE, WESTBOURNE, MAN.

PURE-BRED BARRED ROCKS, DARK EXHIBITION stock, exceptionally good winter layers, good barring, cockerels, \$5.00 and \$7.00 each; pullets, \$5.00. Satisfaction assured. William Buttar, Zealandia, Sask. 52-2

BARRED ROCK COCKERELS, APPROVED Stock, \$2.00, \$3.00. Mrs. Pringle, Dugald, Man. 51-4

FOR SALE—PURE-BRED BARRED ROCK cockerels, from good laying strains, \$2.50, \$3.00 each. Wm. H. Whitrow, Yellow Grass, Sask. 52-2

SELLING—PURE-BRED BARRED ROCK cockerels, University stock, \$3.00. Mrs. Wm. Evans, Rocanville, Sask. 1-6

PURE BARRED ROCK COCKERELS, \$2.00 each. Geo. Mayor, Gladstone, Man. 52-4

BARRED ROCK COCKERELS, \$3.00; TWO, \$5.00. W. Atkinson, Zetland, Alta. 51-5

BARRED ROCK COCKERELS, \$2.50 EACH. E. Bjarnason, Froude, Sask. 49-5

## FARM MACHINERY &amp; AUTOS

FOR SALE—ONE TWIN CYLINDER INDIAN motorcycle, \$75; one cook truck, \$35; one runabout, 1921 Ford, \$250; one Fleury roller mill, 14-inch, three-roll, \$75; one five horse-power gas engine, \$75; one 30 horse-power steam engine, \$500. Box 171, Viscount, Sask.

36-60 AVERY SEPARATOR COMPLETE. Consider feeder of the best-bred roan Shorthorn bull, five years in age. What offers? J. A. Robertson, Maymont, Sask.

SEVEN H.P. FIFTEEN ENGINE, FULLY EQUIPPED, high tension Bosch magneto, and ten-inch Fleury grinder. What offers? L. Trimmer, Gombourge, Man.

ONE MANSEY-HARRIS 12-24 ENGINE, in perfect condition, and four-horse power lift plow, new. Will trade for horses, cattle or sheep. A. A. McInnis, 1737 Rose Street, Regina.

FANNING MILLS—REPAIRS—SCREENS, WIRE cloth, and gangs to separate oats from wheat. Incubator supplies. Thermometers. Manson Campbell, Canham, Ont.

SELLING—CASE 12-25 TRACTOR AND 10-inch Vesot chopper. Cheap. C. M. Lotts, Zealandia, Sask.

RELIANCE MACHINE CO., MOOSE JAW, Sask. Cylinder reborring. Crankshafts turned. Overhaul pistons fitted. Repairs of all kinds.

CYLINDER GRINDING—NEW OVERSIZE pistons and rings. Tractor repairs of all kinds. Calgary Iron Works, Calgary. 49-13

SELLING—CASE POWER HAY BALER, practically new. Terms. G. Snow, Strome, Alta. 48-6

## Welding and Machine Work

SHOP MILLS, GRINDERS, FLOUR MILLS. Grain elevators, pumps, blowers and oil engines, machinery of all kinds. Cylinder boring and tapping. Ream grinding and corrugating. Kipp Kelly Ltd., 45 Bishops Ave., Winnipeg.

## SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

LEARN ALGEBRA—EARN BIG MONEY. Thoroughly. Assist you to positions. Release protection. Personal supervision. Enroll now. New term opens January 2nd. Western Telegraph School, Desk G, 282 Main St., Winnipeg. 52-3

\$5.00 TO LEARN TO DANCE. PROF. SCOTT, 290 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg. 51-9

## LIGHTING SYSTEM

FOR GASOLINE LIGHTING SYSTEMS WRITE us. Agents for Coleman lamps. Repairs for all makes. Canadian Lighting and Heating Co., Edmonton. 49-13

FITTER LIGHTING SYSTEMS—REPAIRS FOR all standard lamps and systems. Write for prices. Lighting Devices Ltd., 380 Nairn Ave., Winnipeg.

## RADIO SUPPLIES

RADIO CATALOGUE FREE, ILLUSTRATED. Describes complete sets and parts for assembling with book-up. Established 1913. Sun Electric Co., Regina. 49-13

FULL EQUIPMENT OF RADIO SUPPLIES AND sets. Send for price list. Wholesale and retail. Pirt and Pirt, Darke Bldg., Regina. 50-13

RADIO SETS AND PARTS. ELECTRICAL SUPPLIES of all kinds. Also wiring and repair work. The Electric Shop, 117 Main St., Moose Jaw, Sask.

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ARGAINS IN USED INSTRUMENTS—WRITE us for description, prices and terms on used pianos, organs and phonographs. H. J. M. Gloeckler Piano House, Saskatoon. 49-9

ARGAINS IN ORGANS—SEVERAL HIGH-grade instruments, guaranteed first-class condition, \$50 to \$110. Write for full description. Heintzman & Co. Ltd., Drawer 180, Regina.

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CANADIAN LEAF TOBACCO, REGALIA brand, guaranteed first quality. Special price for large quantities. Postpaid—Grand Havana, Grand House, Petit Havana, Petit Rouge, \$2.50; Broadleaf Connecticut, \$2.75; Broadleaf, \$3.75; Queen's, \$4.50; Italia, \$4.50; cigars, tobaccos and cigarettes, wholesale and retail. Richard-Belliveau Co., 100 Main St., Winnipeg. 51-6

TOBACCO BY PARCEL POST—CHOICE OLD Canadian grown Virginia flue cured and Kentucky natural leaf tobacco, at 30 to 80 cents per pound, postpaid. A two-pound package of samples will be sent to any address in Canada for \$1.00. Five-pound package, \$2.00. Money refunded if dissatisfied. Ruthven Co-operative Tobacco Exchange, Ruthven, Ont. 1-5

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BEAUTIFUL NEW MANITOBA HONEY—EXCEPTIONAL flavor. Guaranteed absolutely pure. Five and ten-pound pails in 60-pound crates, \$10.20. Comb honey in seven-pound tins, 25c. pound. All delivered. 1st prize Winnipeg Garden Show. G. H. Ball, Dominion City, Man. 49-9

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CEDAR FENCE POSTS—CAR LOTS, DELIVERED your station. E. Hall, Soliqua, B.C. 50-6

## The Cheerful Plowman

By J. Edw. Tuft



## Nice Things for the House

Bare necessities of life, those don't satisfy a wife; place to work, and eat and sleep, floors and fixtures plain and cheap, big square house with lonesome walls, homely, empty, vacant halls, stary windows, chill and cold, paper soiled and growing old, furniture not up to much, with no warm inviting touch—no, indeed, no wife on earth, if she has a cent of worth, can endure, spring, summer, fall, empty plainness, not at all! Tell you what I often do, and you'd better try it, too; oftentimes to wife I say, "Wife, I sold a ton of hay that I didn't plan to sell, but it yielded over well, so let's go to town and try just to see what we can buy, something nifty for the hall, or a picture for the wall." Sometimes I chirp up and shout, "Wife, I hauled that barley out, and have twenty dollars more than I'd figured on before. Let's go in and hunt and tramp till we find a parlor lamp, or a mirror, or a chair, or a runner for the stair! This is surplus cash, you see, coming unbeknownst to me, so let's buy some forks and knives, such as princes give their wives! That's the plan I've had for years, and a good one, it appears, for our home has many things good enough for minor kings, and we've bought them now and then, one today, and one again, bought them with such surplus dimes as come in at random times. We've not 'just a place to stay,' we've a cozy home today, and I have a happy wife, filled with pep, enjoying life!

## FARM LANDS

FARM LANDS—35 YEARS TO PAY, WITH FREE use of the land for one year, and privilege of paying in full at any time. Farms on the fertile prairies or park lands of Western Canada can be purchased on the amortization plan. Seven per cent. of the purchase price cash; no further payment until the end of the second year; balance payable in 34 years with interest at six per cent. No payment of principal and interest together exceeds seven per cent. of the total cost of the farm. Write for full information to Canadian Pacific Railway Co., Dept. of Natural Resources, 922-1st St. East, Calgary. 1-5

SMALL HOME FARMS ON IRRIGABLE LAND. Farm workers can have a home and garden of their own by taking up a small home farm in the Lethbridge or Northern Irrigation. Reduce the cost of living by growing your own vegetables and keeping a cow and some chickens, and make yourself an attractive home. Wonderfully fertile soil, ample moisture, sure crops, plenty of employment. Opportunities to increase buildings. Prices reasonable. Send for particulars to the Irrigation Council of Alberta, 111 Provincial Building, Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada.

SUNNY JERSEY—FARMS WITHIN EASY driving distance of "the front door of the world," New York City, Philadelphia, Atlantic City, greatest consuming markets in America. Farmers' prices for farms, as low as \$1,000, terms. City prices for products—fruits, flowers, vegetables, poultry, dairy, etc. Mild winters, three and four crops annually, fertile soil, excellent paved roads everywhere, cities and seashore. Get State map and illustrated particulars. New Jersey Farm Agency, 303 N.W., Real Estate Trust Building, Philadelphia, Pa. 51-4

KAMLOOPS, BRITISH COLUMBIA—FRUIT market gardening, near city, served by two main line railways, 3,000 acres of the most fertile, irrigated land for sale in ten to 20-acre plots. Pleasant occupation, ideal climate. Write for particulars, Elsey and Stapley, Confederation Life Building, Winnipeg. 51-5

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(Continued on next page)



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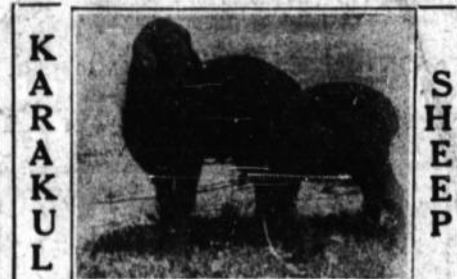
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**PERSIAN LAMB FUR SHEEP** For \$2,000 we furnish 20 cross ewes and imported ram, with four changes on ram. We have some ewes in lamb for sale. This fur-producing industry has a great future. Write for particulars. CALGARY RANCHERS, LIMITED, CALGARY, ALTA., Per O. H. Patrick.



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"I had splendid luck in advertising in your paper last year. I sold a lot of turkeys and sent back money orders for three times as many birds as I sold."—Roy Calvin, Griffin, Sask.

You will find Mr. Calvin's ad. in the turkey column this week.

We did it for him—we'll do it for you

From now on farmers are planning spring requirements; January is a good month to sell poultry breeding stock, hatching eggs, turkeys, chicks, geese, guinea fowl, horses, ponies, freshening cows, seed grain, wheat, oats, barley, flax, rye, farm machinery, gas engines, stubble plows, grain seeders, grain picklers, tractors, fanning mills, farm lands, etc.

Do you know of any better way to sell your surplus stock or products, to get quick and big returns at small cost? If not, try out this method and be convinced.

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## THE GRAIN GROWERS' GUIDE

WINNIPEG, MAN.

P.S.—Get best selection of breeding stock by buying now.

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**I WILL PAY HIGHEST MARKET PRICES FOR** wolf, weasel, mink and rats. Put your own valuation on same. Once a shipper, always a shipper. I pay by express money order or post order. I pay Royalty. W. C. Davis, Springdale, Sask.

**PEDIGREED SCOTCH COLLIE FARM-BRED** pups, parents excellent heelers, grand-son of Clinker, champion collie dog of the world. Dogs, \$10; bitches, \$5.00. Photo and heeling cows furnished. Walter Rowe, Neepawa, Man.

**ONE GREY AND ONE STAG HOUND, EXTRA** good in bush, very fast on track, \$25 each. Two pair half-grown bound pups, \$25 pair. One pure-bred collie, ten months untrained, well marked. Charlie Adamson, Theodore, Sask.

**FARROTS, CANARIES, GOLD FISH, DOGS**, Guinea pigs, rabbits supplies. Puppies wanted. Reliable bird Co., 292 Carlton Street, Winnipeg.

**TALKING PARROTS, CANARIES, GOLD-FISH**, Persian kittens, dogs, supplies. We buy puppies. Miller's Bird Store, 215 Donald, Winnipeg.

**PEDIGREED SCOTCH COLLIE PUPS, SABLE** and white, males, \$10. W. Manmer, Govan, Sask.

**SELLING—WOLFHOUNDS, GREY AND STAG** hounds, guaranteed catchers and killers; pure-bred guaranteed heelers, beauties. Ralph Glenavon, Sask.

**PEDIGREED NEWFOUNDLAND PUPPIES**—That breed now so nearly extinct. We have fine ones. Robert Gillespie, Abitoford, 50-5

**SELLING—REGISTERED RUSSIAN WOLF-**hound puppies; also some matured Russians, fast and good workers. Wm. Langman, Penseance, Sask.

**FOR SALE—TWO RELIABLE WOLFHOUNDS**, males, three years old. James McCunn, Tugaskie, Sask.

**SELLING—FIVE GUARANTEED COYOTE** hounds, stag and greyhound cross. E. W. Houghton, Raven, Alta.

**WANTED—MALE PUP, ONE-HALF WOLF**, C. V. K., 722 S. Poinsettia St., West Palm Beach, Fla., U.S.A.

**FOR SALE—THREE WOLFHOUNDS, FOR** particulars apply A. Bossenberry, Coliholme, Alta.

### Poultry Supplies

**USE PENN COAL, BEST QUALITY, NORTH** West Coal Co., Edmonton.

## POULTRY See also General Miscellaneous

### Various

**TOULOUSE GESE, \$4.50; GANDERS, \$5.00;** Pekin ducks, \$2.00; drakes, \$2.00 to \$3.00; Indian Runners, \$1.50; trio, \$5.00; Bronze Turkeys, \$3.00; toms, \$5.00; Plymouth Rock cockerels, \$3.00; Higginbotham's best S. C. Buff Orpingtons, cockerels, \$2.00 to \$5.00; five pullets, \$1.50; five or more, \$1.00 each. All bred from very best. F. V. Beaubier, Box 145, Champion, Alta.

**PURE-BRED WHITE WYANDOTTE COCK-**erels, early hatch, \$2.00; pure-bred Buff Orpington cockerels, good laying strain, \$2.00. Mrs. James Hood, Castor, Alta.

**MAHOGANY ORLOFF COCKERELS AND** pullets, \$1.50; immediate acceptance. E. J. Arnold, Balduf, Man.

**LIGHT BRAHMA COCKERELS, IMPORTED** stock, \$3.50 each. Pleasant Edwards, Chendie, Alta.

**MAMMOTH BRONZE YOUNG TOMS, FROM** 40-pound, first prize winner, Calgary, 1922 and 1923 winter show. J. W. Bennett, Rainier, Alta.

**SELLING—PURE-BRED MAMMOTH BRONZE** turkeys, \$5.00 and \$6.00 each. Jack Hyde, Marquette, Man.

**WANTED—PURE-BRED BRONZE TURKEY** tom, weighing not less than 30 pounds. Give particulars. Mrs. R. S. Day, Islay, Alta.

**PURE-BRED WHITE HOLLAND GOBBLETS**, \$4.00; old gobbler, \$5.00. Will Wright, Plumas, Man.

**SELLING—PURE-BRED PEKIN DUCKS, \$1.50;** drakes, \$1.75. Walter W. Burgess, Lauder, Man.

**MAMMOTH PURE-BRED WHITE HOLLAND** turkeys, toms, \$5.00; hens, \$3.00. Roy Calvin, Grim, Sask.

**EXTRA LARGE TOULOUSE GESE, EITHER** sex, \$4.00; two years, \$5.00, \$6.00. R. Ferguson, Aene, Alta.

**MAMMOTH BRONZE TURKEYS, TOMS, \$5.00;** hens, \$5.00. Satisfaction guaranteed. J. R. Stewart, Keyes, Man.

**FOR SALE—PURE-BRED BRONZE TURKEYS**, hens, \$4.00; gobbler, \$5.00. E. Davis, Box 172, Vegreville, Alta.

**LARGE PURE-BRED BOUREON RED TUR-**keys, toms, \$6.00; hens, \$5.00. W. R. Mickleborough, H.R.I., Regina, Sask.

**PURE BRONZE TURKEYS, UNIVERSITY** strain, toms, \$6.00; hens, \$4.50. Mrs. A. G. Hanson, Clavet, Sask.

**PURE-BRED MAMMOTH TOULOUSE GESE**, ganders, \$4.00; geese, \$3.00. H. W. Clay, Fillmore, Sask.

**PURE-BRED BRONZE TURKEYS, TOMS, \$6.00;** hens, \$4.00. James W. Nickason, Alford, Sask.

**PURE-BRED MAMMOTH BRONZE TURKEY** toms, \$5.00; hens, \$3.00. Mrs. Jesse Clark, Carleton Place, Sask.

**FOR SALE—WHITE HOLLAND TURKEYS**, pure-bred toms, \$5.00; hens, \$4.00. Phy Johnson, Greenway, Man.

**PURE-BRED BRONZE TURKEYS, TOMS, \$7.00;** Shipping point, Herschel or Flako. Mrs. E. Wickett, Flako, Sask.

**TOULOUSE GESE, STANDARD-BRED GESE**, \$3.50; ganders, \$4.00. Satisfaction guaranteed. Syd Coldwell, Pollockville, Alta.

**MAMMOTH BRONZE TURKEYS, UNIVERSITY** strain, toms, \$5.00; hens, \$3.50. G. Jagle, Liberty, Sask.

**CHOICE PURE-BRED BRONZE TURKEYS**, university strain, toms, \$6.00; hens, \$4.00. Arthur Nelson, Wilcox, Sask.

**PURE-BRED MAMMOTH BRONZE TURKEYS**, hens, \$3.00; toms, \$4.00, from 40-pound gobbler. Mrs. Duffon, Box 95, Wapella, Sask.

**PURE BRONZE TURKEYS, 20-POUND TOMS**, \$3.00; 14-pound hens, \$2.00. James Clark, Macdonald, Man.

**SELLING—PURE-BRED BOUREON RED TUR-**keys, toms, \$4.00; toms, \$5.00. Johan W. Wiebe, Horadcan, Man.

**WHITE HOLLAND TOMS, \$4.00 EACH, D.** Ritchie, Zealandia, Sask.

**LARGE PURE-BRED EMBDEN GANDERS**, \$6.00 each. C. Reynolds, Brookside, Sask.

**BOUREON RED TOMS, 17 TO 20 POUNDS**, December, \$4.50. E. Crook, Medora, Man.

### Wyandottes

**TEN ONLY, EXTRA FINE WHITE WYAN-**dotte cockerels, from prize winners, \$5.00 and \$10 each. Satisfaction guaranteed. H. C. Dobson, Estevan, Sask.

**PURE-BRED WHITE WYANDOTTE COCKER-**els, Martin strain, \$2.50. Mrs. Howard, Aneroid, Sask.

**PURE-BRED ROSE COMB WHITE WYAN-**dottes, cockerels, \$3.00. Collin Minshall, Pierson, Man.

**SELLING—WHITE WYANDOTTE COCKERELS**, egg-laying strain, \$1.50 each. Aylward, Rosetown, Sask.

**SELLING—PURE-BRED WHITE WYANDOTTE** chickens, cockerels, \$2.00; pullets, \$1.50. Delmore Schneider, Buchanan, Sask.

**PURE-BRED PARTRIDGE WYANDOTTE** cockerels, \$2.50 each; prize pure-bred Pekin drakes, \$2.00 each. N. Fehr, Gladstone, Man.

**SELLING—WHITE WYANDOTTE COCKERELS**, Martin's strain, \$2.00 each. Alfred Wells, Evesham, Sask.

### Leghorns

**PEDIGREED WHITE LEGHORN COCKERELS**, from hens with R.O.P. certificates, \$5.00; unpedigreed, \$3.00; hens, \$1.00. Miss Ellen Jekling, Dugald, Man.

**PURE-BRED DOUBLE ROSE COMB BROWN** Leghorn cockerels, bred from prize-winning strain, \$2.00 each; three for \$5.00. H. C. Mercer, Briercrest, Sask.

### Rhode Islands

**ROSE COMB RHODE ISLAND RED COCK-**erels, from pen which laid 50% last winter, headed by male with 200-egg dam, \$2.25 each; three for \$6.00. B. C. Bailey, Roadene, Abbey, Sask.

**PURE-BRED ROSE COMB RHODE ISLAND** Red cockerels, good dark birds, \$2.00 and \$3.00 each. Mm P. Paxon, Kinley, Sask.

**GORDON'S SINGLE COMB REDS WON FIRST** young pen at 1923 Royal Toronto. Cockerels for sale. Transcona, Man.

**PURE-BRED ROSE COMB RHODE ISLAND** cockerels, laying strain, \$2.75 delivered. John Ferris, Sperting, Man.

**RHODE ISLAND COCKERELS, FROM EXH-**ibition and pedigree stock. Write for prices. Frank Holmes, Broadway, Saskatoon.

### Minorcas

**BLACK MINORCA COCKERELS, \$2.00 EACH**, F. O. Johnson, Bladworth, Sask.

### Anconas

**PURE-BRED ROSE COMB ANCONAS, COCK-**erels, \$2.00 each, four for \$7.00, Shepherd Creek, J. Byer, Kindersley, Sask.

**PURE-BRED ROSE COMB HENS, 75 CENTS**, W. Hedges, Oym, Alta.